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Hamas man dies in blast at Gaza bomb factory

JON IMMANUEL

A POWERFUL explosion in a Gaza City apartment killed a known member of Izzadin Kassam, the armed wing of Hamas, yesterday.

The explosion blew a hole through the ceiling. Palestinian police found more than 10 kg. of TNT and other explosives in the apartment. It was evidently a bomb factory, and the dead man, Ibrahim Naffar, was probably planning an attack to coincide with the second anniversary of the Oslo Accord.

An unidentified woman in the apartment with him, was wounded.

Naffar, 33, was thought to have been in the house raided by Palestinian police in the Sheikh Radwan neighborhood of Gaza City on August 18. During that raid police first reported three Izzadin Kassam members, including Naffar, were arrested, then in an official statement did not include Naffar among them.

At that time, Hamas passed out information that the police and Hamas reached a deal whereby Awad Silmi and Wael Nasser, whose whereabouts were determined by Israeli intelligence agents, surrendered willingly in return for an assurance they would be released within a month. Naffar may not have been in the apartment or may have escaped or been allowed to leave.

Police denied the reports of a deal with Hamas, saying the period of the arrested men's incarceration could not be determined until they were interrogated. On Tuesday, a Gaza military court sentenced Silmi and Nasser to five years in jail for planning violent attacks, although the targets were not identified. Israel said it would seek their extradition, although no official request has been presented. Silmi is suspected of the murder of Lt.-Col. Meir Mintz in December 1993, and Nasser of preparing to be a suicide bomber.

Yesterday's blast will not help Hamas relations with the Palestinian Authority, which is sensitive to attempts by Hamas to produce bombs inside Gaza for use against Israelis.

However, neighbors of the bomber carried his body out of the building on a stretcher, praising him.

Police break up anti-gov't protest in capital

22 arrested, 30 injured;

Shahal: We showed restraint

-HERB KEINON and BILL HUTMAN



Police drag away anti-government demonstrators in Jerusalem last night.

(Brian Hender)

Israel-PA deal unlikely before holidays

DAVID MAKOVSKY

We are glad that the fugitives are caught, Liba'i said, but "we insist that the murderers be tried for their crime of murder."

Should the Palestinians insist on trying suspected terrorists for lesser offenses with a lighter jail term, Israel will seek an ironclad commitment from the PA that the terrorists be extradited to Israel after they serve their sentence for lesser offenses.

However, leading Palestinian intelligence operative Mohammed Dahlan reportedly said last week that the Palestinians would never extradite suspects to Israel. While not written in the agreement, other Palestinian officials have linked extraditions to Israel turning over settlers who have killed Palestinians.

Foreign Ministry officials confirmed that Peres and Liba'i pointedly refused to link Israeli requests for the extradition of a dozen Palestinians suspected of terrorism to the release of Palestinian prisoners.

"One must understand that once the Palestinians have put fugitives in jail, they are allowed by the agreement to delay their transfer to Israel," Liba'i told reporters. "In

this sense, their failure to transfer them to us is not a violation of the agreement. [But] the Palestinians are essentially emptying their commitment to transfer fugitives for trial by not trying them for the same crimes that they perpetrated. Instead, they convene a quick trial in order to duck their commitment."

President Ezer Weizman said Israel must tell Arafat that he is making a "bitter mistake" by not extraditing the suspects in the killing of two Israeli hikers in Wadi Kelt.

The delay in the Peres-Arafat meeting, which may be held at the Erez junction, stems from problems in the ongoing technical negotiations in Eilat. Sources close to the negotiations say Peres only wants to discuss crucial issues, such as Hebron, after the "deck has been cleared" of a whole host of secondary issues, which have still yet to be resolved.

Among the multitude of issues left open are the question of whether IDF redeployment will also take place from some suburbs outside of Palestinian municipal areas. The draft agreement, including annexes, is believed to already be close to 500 pages.

TWENTY-TWO people were arrested, and some 30 injured, when police broke up an illegal Zo Artzenu demonstration in the center of Jerusalem last night.

Twenty of the injured, including six policemen, were taken to local hospitals for treatment.

Among those arrested were Zo Artzenu heads Shmuel Sackett and Moshe Feiglin who, with his hands tied above his head to illustrate passivity, encouraged people to block the streets.

At a hearing last night, High Court Justice Zvi Tal ordered police to allow Zo Artzenu lawyers Shmuel Casper and Ariel Leshem to meet with their clients after police finish an initial interrogation. Those detainees held overnight will be brought for a remand hearing this morning.

A crowd of estimated at several thousand took part in the demonstration against territorial concessions, which lasted nearly five hours, tangling up traffic in the city center for most of that time.

The protest began in the late afternoon, when dozens of people congregated at France Square, around the corner from the Prime Minister's Residence. They were met by hundreds of police, riot police, and border policemen who filled the square and numerous side streets.

In a show of support timed for 5:30 p.m., dozens of cars passing the intersection began honking, as did drivers on roads throughout the country. People on the corner began banging pans and whistling.

For the first 10 minutes of the protest, a few people, with their hands tied above their heads, walked into the street and stood or sat down in front of cars. They were variously chanting "This is our land [Zo Artzenu]," and "Police state."

Mounted policemen tried to control the crowd about 20 minutes into the demonstration. The horses pushed people up King George Street in the direction of Jaffa Road. One policeman used his whip to hit demonstrators who did not get out of the way.

As the police were pushing people up the street, water cannons

shot blue-colored water at people congregated in the plaza near the Sheraton Plaza Hotel, and the courtyard of the apartment building next door.

One woman, wearing a green hat and orange shirt, stood shaking a pot she brought to an earlier Women in Green demonstration, and chanted "Am Yisrael hat." She was targeted by the cannons. When they finished firing a spurt of water, she advanced again and, waving the pot, repeated the chant. It happened a couple of times, until the water cannons moved on.

Numerous demonstrators charged they were arbitrarily pushed, shoved, and beaten by policemen.

One of the demonstrators, Avital Gan-Or, said mounted police went up to a group of girls and started to push them for no reason.

Another man, who was trying to dodge the horses by standing behind a pole, was dragged by the neck of his shirt by a mounted policeman and pulled up the street.

Efrat resident Sammy Feder said that as he was being pushed up the street, he turned to the police and said, "If you are going to push me, look me in the eye." Feder said he was then hit in the face, stomach, and groin. One of the demonstrators videotaped the episode. A number of demonstrators had video cameras, and were filming the police in action.

The police came under a constant barrage of taunts and curses, including "Nazis" and "thugs."

At one point, police formed a line on both sides of King George Street, which was blocked to traffic, and pushed anyone in their way up the street.

"Nobody is to stay here, push them forward," police officer Mickey Levy shouted through a megaphone from his jeep. "This is an illegal protest, it is permitted to use force."

Police Minister Moshe Shahal said in a statement that the police showed "determination and a great deal of restraint."

"All over the country, and in Jerusalem in particular, we did our job of enforcing the law and (Continued on Page 2)

1.2% drop in job-seekers

Jerusalem Post Staff

THE number of job-seekers dropped 1.2% in August compared with the previous month after increasing for four months, the Labor and Social Affairs Ministry reported yesterday.

Some 112,000 people registered at Employment Service offices in August, down from 113,000 in July, after seasonal factors were taken into account.

However, the service said the drop was not significant and more increases are expected in the coming months.

About 17,000 academics were among the job-seekers in August, most of them living in Haifa, Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and Beersheba. There were some 23,000 new job-seekers, mostly newly discharged soldiers and university graduates.

New immigrants comprised 10,800 of the job-seekers in August, while the percentage of women among all job-seekers increase to 55.9% from 55.3%.

Some 73,200 foreign workers were registered with the service in August, compared with 72,000 in July.

The Central Bureau of Statistics reported this week that unemployment had dropped to 6.2% in the second quarter of the year.

Last month, Kiryat Malachi, with 10.3% unemployment, joined the list of unemployment trouble spots where there are more than 10% unemployed. The six others are Ofakim (14%), Sderot (14%), Kiryat Gat (11.7%), Mitzpe Ramon (11.5%) and Yeroham (11.3%).

South African FM: No nuclear ties with Iran

DAVID MAKOVSKY

SOUTH Africa's ties with Iran are purely economic, and South Africa is committed to a moderate foreign policy course, a participant cited visiting Foreign Minister Alfred Nzo as telling Foreign Minister Shimon Peres yesterday.

The US and Israel believe that South Africa should not store Iranian oil on its soil. Economics and Planning Minister Yossi Beilin raised this issue during his own meeting with Nzo yesterday morning, sources say.

Before flying here, Nzo issued a statement seeking to clarify South Africa's ties with Iran. He said Pretoria "has not entered into any agreement concerning nuclear cooperation with Iran."

Noting that South Africa has denuclearized in the last few years, Nzo sought to assure Peres that his country would avoid aiding Iranian nuclear ambitions.

As he repeated publicly later, Nzo said that any South African ties with Iran would not come at the expense of the bilateral relationship with Israel. "South Africa is determined not to conduct its bilateral relations with any country to the detriment of any third party," he said.

The two countries signed a framework agreement yesterday which called for both parties to advance ties in a variety of areas. Apart from the Iranian issue, the meeting seemed bereft of other controversy. Nzo explained South Africa's economic development challenge, while Peres gave an overview of Middle East peace developments.

Peres also said Israel would be happy for President Nelson Mandela to visit, and Nzo said that his country would invite Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin to Pretoria.

While there have been strains in the relationship due to the new South African government's view of Israel as being linked to the

apartheid regime, Nzo sought to accommodate the positive.

In his speech at a lunch hosted by Peres, he thanked Israel for providing a variety of technical training for over 500 South Africans here over the last few years in a bid to assist South Africa's economic development program.

Nzo went on to congratulate Israel's drive for Middle East peace. "One of the main purposes of my visit is to affirm South Africa's solidarity with the achievements of the evolving peace process in the region," he declared.

Comparing Israel's effort to South Africa's in creating a new reality, Nzo continued. "Our response, like yours, was not to succumb, but to stay the course, and to keep the eye on the prize. I am saying today without qualification that South Africa stands wholly behind you in your resolve to succeed in that admirable goal. We salute you all and wish you all strength."

Nzo also thanked the South African Jewish community for its efforts to press for human rights. "South Africa's Jews are one of the country's premier minority communities and, as is well known, have played a disproportionate role in the fight for justice in our country, especially in the human rights field."

"Through their courageous commitment to justice in South Africa, they have helped forge a culture of human rights and freedom. Having been victimized, persecuted, and discriminated against, Jews stood up in considerable numbers as strong defenders of civil rights. Every South African man, woman, and child has benefited from this legacy. South Africa's Jewish community is highly valued and respected in our country."

In his toast, Peres gave the new

South Africa Israel's best wishes.

"I cannot think of any people who have suffered more oppression than the black people and the Jewish people," Peres said. He said South Africa and Israel have made both huge steps in dealing with respective adversar-

ies over the last few years, adding, "We both made a moral choice [above] political expediency."

Nzo will be visiting Gaza this week and will also apparently visit Palestinian officials at Orient House in eastern Jerusalem.

South African chief of staff visits, Page 12



Foreign Minister Shimon Peres walks with his South African counterpart Alfred Nzo yesterday.

(Ariel Jerzolimski)

Knesset panel calls for Tnuva bosses' heads

JUDY SIEGEL

THE Knesset Labor and Social Affairs Committee yesterday took the unusual step of calling for the resignations of Tnuva managing director Yitzhak Landman and board chairman Shalom Simhon.

Committee chairman MK Yossi Katz also called on Attorney-General Michael Ben-Yair to examine the "personal and criminal responsibility" of the two for the Tnuva milk scandal.

Katz prematurely closed a special committee session on the scandal after learning that Simhon had instructed Landman not to ap-

pear before the body.

Earlier this week, Tnuva admitted that its Rehovot dairy had added a silicone-based anti-foaming agent to its one-percent-fat, long-life milk over the past 18 months.

Although the Health Ministry said the additive "does not endanger health," it called the act very serious because the law bars adding any foreign substance to milk. The addition of the chemical was disclosed two weeks ago by Ma'ariv investigative reporter Ronel Fischer.

(Continued on Page 2)

More egg on Tnuva's face

TNUVA was caught in another violation yesterday, when Health Ministry inspectors making a surprise visit to its egg warehouse in Petah Tikva found 74,000 eggs stored at high temperatures and without last-date-of-sale markings.

The ministry announced last night that the eggs could not be sold to the public, and only after undergoing pasteurization may they be sent for industrial processing.

Food Service Division director Dr. Brian Coussin said eggs must be stored at temperatures no higher than 20°C, while those in the warehouse were stored at 28°C.

In March, the ministry started requiring suppliers to have their name and the last date of sale stamped on egg containers. The date must be no later than 16 days after they are sorted. The regulations were set to reduce the risk of salmonella poisoning.

Judy Siegel

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Jews and Arabs in Hebron clash over Palestinian flag

DISTURBANCES in Hebron widened yesterday as settlers in Beit Hadassah faced off against pupils at a neighboring elementary girls' school for the fourth straight day. Parents came to their children's support, and youths in adjoining streets threw stones at soldiers.

The focus of the disturbance was the Palestinian flag, which pupils have flown every morning from the roof of the Kortuba Elementary School for girls.

Settlers have entered the school each day to take it down. Yesterday MK Shaul Guttman (Moledei) tried to put an Israeli flag in its place.

Settlers said the Palestinian flag is a provocation and the IDF ordered it off the school

JON IMMANUEL

building to preserve order and declared the area a closed military zone.

Several young girls, including toddlers in a nearby kindergarten, were affected by tear gas when soldiers tried to disperse stone-throwers, some of whom threw large rocks onto army jeeps from rooftops. Barricades with burning tires were also erected in the street.

"This is an escalation of the situation by the settlers. It is a provocation against the girls' school and the people in the city," said Mayor Mustafa Natshe.

"This is all a provocation by the girls' school. Arabs and groups of Europeans join them. According to an agreement with the

army, we are not allowed to raise the Israeli flag in Jericho and they cannot do so where Israelis live. The Palestinian flag at the moment represents the Palestinian charter. It symbolizes what Hitler symbolized during the Holocaust," said Anat Cohen, a resident of Beit Hadassah.

Disturbances in the city have intensified as the difficulties of negotiators to reach agreement on redeployment have intensified.

The disturbances began last week when the Islamic court was moved into the old Wafk Islamic Trust building in the Old City neighborhood where Jews live. At the same time, Hebron Arabs began moving back into the area under a Palestinian Authority plan to repopulate it with Arabs.

Halhoul residents aiding police in murder probe

BILL HUTMAN

HALHOUL residents whose homes were stormed last week by masked assailants in IDF uniforms, including the family of slain Salman Azamareh, have given police important information that has helped advance the investigation, a senior police source said yesterday.

Police hope in the coming days to exhume Azamareh's body and conduct an autopsy. "This is essential for the success of the investigation," the source said.

The investigation remains centered on Jewish right-wing extremists, although other possibilities are also being considered, the source said.

No arrests have been made yet in connection with the case.

Amnesty International yesterday condemned the killing of Azamareh in Halhoul.

In a statement from its London office, Amnesty said: "This killing comes at a time when an increasing number of attacks by armed opposition groups, both Jewish and Islamist, have been taking place." It called for an immediate end "to the deliberate and arbitrary killing of civilians by these groups."

The older brother of Azamareh verbally attacked the detectives, and therefore had to be restrained by other family members, but the family also spoke to police.

The group emphasized that it had also condemned the killings of Israeli civilians by Palestinian groups.

Ex-deputy chief of staff Yosef Avidar dies at 89

Jerusalem Post Staff

YOSEF Avidar, former deputy chief of staff and ambassador, died yesterday in Jerusalem at age 89.

Avidar was born in Kerem-Elitz, Poland and joined the Hagana after immigrating to Palestine in 1925.

With the outbreak of the War of Independence, Avidar was given the rank of major-general, and served as head of the Quartermaster's Branch, and later as OC Northern Command, Central Command, and the General Staff Branch when he was deputy chief of staff.

The government asked the IDF to release Avidar and appointed him ambassador to the USSR

from 1955-58. Upon returning from Moscow, he served as head of the Labor Ministry, and later served as ambassador to Argentina from 1961-68.

After leaving the army, Avidar obtained a doctorate in Sovietology from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Avidar's works included *Baderech Le'Zahal* on the Hagana's transformation into the IDF.

Avidar is survived by his wife, Yemima, two daughters, seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

He will be buried tomorrow with full military honors at 11 a.m. at Mount Herzl military cemetery in Jerusalem.



Palestinian policemen collect debris, including a heart-shaped clock, from the roof of an apartment building in Gaza after an explosion in which Hamas member Ibrahim Naffar was killed yesterday, apparently while assembling a bomb. (Reuters)

Beilin: Palestinians torn between independence and cooperation

JON IMMANUEL

THE Palestinian Authority is seized by conflicting impulses to cooperate with Israel for cost-benefit reasons and to disentangle itself from Israel at any price, Economics Minister Yossi Beilin said yesterday.

"On the one hand they very much want to cooperate with us. On the other they see in electricity, ports and such things potent symbols of independence."

"This conflict has made cooperation with Jordan much more orderly than with the Palestinians," Beilin said.

Partly to resolve the situation, the Palestinian Authority and Israel are to conduct inter-minis-

trial seminars on economic planning. One is scheduled for next week in Jerusalem, another is planned in Rehovot on the subject of the region's future.

Palestinian experts in the PA Planning Ministry are to be invited for sustained visits to the Economics Ministry to work with Israeli officials and see how they work, Beilin said.

Beilin questioned the tendency of Palestinian businessmen to deal in food and textiles, suggesting that computer technology might be a suitable direction. What has not been realized is that

if the Palestinian economy focuses in certain areas, this will become its permanent economic base. Therefore Palestinian economists have to think very carefully in which direction they want to go, Beilin said.

Beilin is also preparing for the Amman economic conference scheduled for October 29. "I expect there will be much more concrete achievement there than in Casablanca," he said.

But the main issue will be the matter of establishing a Middle East Development Bank, along the lines of the European Bank with member states participating as shareholders and directors.

Police arrest head of Eyal group

HERB KEINON

AVISHAI Raviv, head of the Eyal Jewish extremist group, was arrested in Hebron yesterday and taken to the police serious crimes division in Petah Tikva.

Eyal is a Kach splinter group that claimed responsibility for Friday's murder in Halhoul of Salman Azamareh. Raviv has denied any responsibility for the murder.

Former Kach spokesman Noam Federman was also arrested in Hebron, and settlement sources there say he was also questioned about the Halhoul murder.

However, a senior police source said the arrest of Raviv is not connected with the Halhoul investigation.

Israel Radio quoted security sources yesterday as saying that it is not likely that either Eyal, or another organization that took responsibility for the murder, the Sword of David, was responsible.

Bill Hutman contributed to this report.

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PROTEST

(Continued from Page 1)

preventing the demonstrators from disturbing the peace and the normal course of life," said Inspector-General Assaf Hefetz, who went to the scene. He charged that some of the protesters used "violence."

Police said one man drew a gun during a scuffle with police near the American Consulate, and was arrested on the spot.

In addition to the protest in Jerusalem, Zo Artzenu activists said they had reports of slow-moving cars blocking traffic on the Jerusalem-Tel Aviv highway, and of horns being honked around the country at 5:30 in a show of support.

During the demonstration, Rabbi Benny Elon, one of the heads of Zo Artzenu, broadcast words of encouragement to the demonstrators from a pirate radio station. His words were sandwiched in between klezmer music and hassidic songs.

TNUVA

(Continued from Page 1)

Simhon explained that he prevented Landesman from appearing before the committee because the board of directors had decided a few days ago to transfer responsibility for dealing with the crisis from the managing director to the board itself. The board has appointed Prof. Yehuda Danon, director of the Schneider Children's Medical Center of Israel in Petah Tikva, to head an "independent committee" to investigate the entire affair and find those responsible. Simhon said he would be happy to appear before the committee next week to represent Tnuva.

After a week of declaring that the chemical has been used merely to clean the machinery in the Rehovot plant, Tnuva management said Sunday it had "discovered" that "minute amounts" of the chemical had been added to the low-fat milk "without the prior knowledge or permission" of Tnuva headquarters.

"The [Tnuva] board has no right of existence if it doesn't honor the basic rules of the game," Katz said. "The behavior of its chairman and managing director have shamed the Knesset and the entire public, and the attorney-general must look into their responsibility."

Likud MK Silvan Shalom noted that as part of the recovery program for debt-ridden kibbutzim, in which the Treasury takes over part of their shares, "we can take care of Tnuva's monopolistic dairy business."

Labor MK Yoram Lass called for the resignation of Landesman and for the establishment of an independent, US-style Food and Drug Administration to supervise production, testing, and marketing.

Hillel Kuntler

Washington crowd raps peace process

OVER 100 demonstrators gathered opposite the White House yesterday morning to protest the government's peace policies on the second anniversary of the signing of the Oslo accord.

The crowd, representing pro-Israel Jewish and Christian groups, protested at the traditional demonstration site of Lafayette Park against US aid to the PLO, the imminent IDF withdrawal in the territories, and ceding the Golan Heights to Syria and stationing US troops there.

Hillel Kuntler

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May her soul rest in peace.

The funeral will take place on

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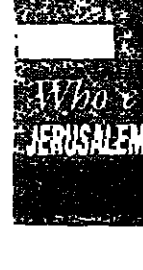
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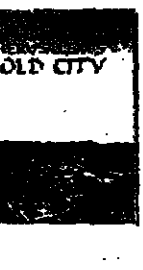
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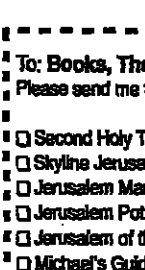
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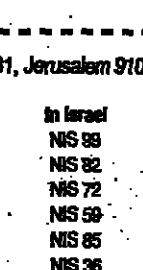
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هكزا من الامم



Housing Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer (left) and Contractors Association Chairman Mordechai Yona sign the scroll marking the dedication this week of the first of five schools being built for the new city of Modi'in, where more than 7,000 housing units are being completed. (Yisrael Hadary)

Hevrat Ha'ovdim readies for liquidation

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

THE way for the liquidation of Hevrat Ha'ovdim, the Histadrut's holding company, was paved yesterday.

The company's convention adopted a constitutional amendment ensuring that the Histadrut can take control of the funds obtained from selling off Hevrat Ha'ovdim's properties, if and when it is liquidated.

The liquidation of Hevrat Ha'ovdim is in keeping with the new leadership's policy that the Histadrut should not own companies and employ workers.

At the end of the stormy convention session, it was decided that the money will be transferred to the Histadrut via the recently formed labor fund, to be used for covering debts and financing health, welfare, and education programs.

Delegates representing the

United Kibbutz Movement and the Labor Histadrut faction strongly opposed the move, arguing that the legal owners of Hevrat Ha'ovdim are the members of the Histadrut.

Labor faction members warned that the Histadrut leadership will use the funds to cover debts, and then refuse to give severance pay to fired workers or honor their pensions, claiming a lack of funds.

They noted that Hevrat Ha'ovdim was founded for the workers, and the least the Histadrut can do is put the liquidation funds in escrow to ensure the workers' rights.

In their haste to strip the Histadrut of all its assets, the leaders will sell off the buildings housing the labor councils. Then, when

they fire the labor council secretaries and workers, as they plan to do, they will say they cannot pay for their pensions," a Labor faction member said.

Some faction members called for distributing the funds obtained from selling the properties among all Histadrut members.

After selling its Koor stock for more than \$250 million, the holding company still owns Bank Ha-poalim shares worth an estimated \$65m-\$75m, as well as stakes in Ha'argaz and Shikun Uvini, which owns Shikun Ovdin and Solel Boneh.

Hevrat Ha'ovdim also has extensive real estate holdings.

Histadrut Treasurer Haim Oron confirmed this week that the Histadrut is considering liquidating Hevrat Ha'ovdim, but has not yet decided on the time and way in which this would be done.

First Israeli-Arab ambassador chosen

AN Israeli-Arab has been named an ambassador for the first time, the Foreign Ministry said yesterday. Ali Adneeb Yihya, a lecturer in education at Tel Aviv University, will serve as ambassador to Finland.

"I am proud to be Israel's first Arab ambassador and to open the door for integration inside and outside the country. It makes me proud not only to represent the Arab sector but to represent the whole country," Yihya told Reuters.

Jerusalem Post Staff

A resident of Kafr Kara in the Galilee, Ali Yihya, 49, also teaches Arabic to Israeli Jews and Hebrew to Palestinians from the occupied territories.

Ulpian Akiva, the residential language school in Netanya where he teaches, was nominated for a Nobel Peace Prize in 1992 and 1993 for its work in Arab-Israeli relations.

In 1986, Ali Yihya was awarded the prestigious Israel Prize for

his life's work in education.

"I will go to Finland with hope for a better future and believe I will come back to Israel with love," he said.

His appointment was welcomed by Israeli-Arab leaders, for whom it has long been a sore point that they have not reached the highest ranks of government.

"It is a positive step," said MK Abdel Wahab Darawshe (Arab Democratic Party). "But it is not a revolutionary change in the government's attitude."

Health Ministry workers to strike despite Labor Court restraining order

JUDY SIEGEL

JERUSALEM Labor Court last night issued restraining orders against the union representing 2,000 Health Ministry staffers who suspended a 10-day strike two weeks ago, but the workers have announced their intention to continue with their strike on Sunday nevertheless.

All district health offices will close as a result of the strike, preventing those traveling abroad from getting vaccinations and shutting down quarantine stations at the ports. Imported food will not be released at the ports; suppliers of goods and services will not receive payment; and the supply of vaccines at family-health centers will be reduced.

In addition, the strike may somewhat interfere with the annual meeting of the European

section of the World Health Organization, as a number of Health Ministry staffers are involved. The meeting opens on Monday in Jerusalem.

Judge Ya'acov Neugebom heard the arguments of the Treasury, which said it does not intend to raise the wages of all the staffers, but would be willing to offer "incentive pay" to a limited number of them. He issued the restraining orders against all sanctions, but did not explain his ruling.

A Treasury spokesman claimed the judge had accepted the Finance Ministry's position on wage demands.

Eleven days ago, the same court persuaded

the workers to halt their strike and the two sides to sit down and discuss demands. But these talks got nowhere.

The union, whose members work at ministry headquarters, district health offices and a variety of public-health facilities around the country, demand that their wages be equalized to those of counterparts in Kupat Holim Clalit, according to the formula set down by the Padeh Committee.

Union leaders said they were forced to ignore the court orders because "our employers deceived the court by claiming the Treasury was looking into our demands. We have demanded equal salary scales for 25 years, and our employers have always used as an excuse their intention to study the matter."

'Religion not forced outside classroom'

HAIM SHAPIRO

PUPILS in the National Religious school system can go without kippot, eat what they like, and do what they want on Shabbat, according to the Education Ministry's director of the National Religious system, Motti Dagan.

"Our only requirement is that the student accept the demands of the school regarding religious observance in the school, not outside its walls," he said.

He was reacting to a series of continuing complaints regarding demands by National Religious schools that parents sign a commitment concerning their observance before a

child would be accepted in the school. Dagan said that such demands were illegal and he would see to it that they were stopped. He added that the history of the National Religious system was filled with examples of pupils from somewhat observant families who had gone on to become rabbis and heads of yeshivot and religious institutions for women.

Hemdat, the Council for Freedom of Science, Religion and Culture, had protested to

Education Minister Amnon Rubinstein concerning declarations of religiosity which it said parents were required to make before their children were accepted.

According to Hemdat, families were required to affirm that the family observed kashrut and Shabbat, that all the men in the family covered their heads at all times, and that they prayed with a minyan on Shabbat. The parents were also asked to affirm that all their children learned in religious frameworks and that they would pay for extra lessons in religious subjects, Hemdat said.

Mashina star supports call for probe of Arad tragedy

AMIR ROZENBLIT

YUVAL Banai, the lead singer of the rock group Mashina, yesterday attended an assembly called by the Beersheba Youth Council to support the demand of the parents of those killed at this summer's Arad Festival that a commission of inquiry into the tragedy be established.

"My friends and I came here because we think something should be done so that a tragedy like this does not recur," Banai

said. "Something must be done so that people can attend concerts and other cultural and artistic events without fear."

Dr. Mickey Peled, the father of Eitan Peled, one of those killed at the festival, told a press conference before the gathering that Arts Minister Shulamit Aloni's opposition to an inquiry commission has led him to believe she

has something to hide.

"We have not come seeking revenge," he said, "and it is clear that nothing can bring our children back. No commission can do that. But it is inconceivable that a tragedy like this isn't being investigated. Right now, it seems there was a festival, 160,000 young people attended, three of them were killed, and the world goes about its business. That cannot be."

Article on holidays offends religious teachers

THE Association of Religious Teachers yesterday threatened to cancel the subscriptions of its 20,000 members to the teachers' union journal *Hed Hahinuch* because it published an article which offended "Jewish tradition."

Shmaryahu Ben-Tsur, who heads the association and is deputy head of the teachers' union, claimed the article by Prof. Uzi Aron shows contempt for the Torah, and shows hatred and contempt for Jewish tradition and holidays.

The article states that "Jewish commentaries on the holidays encourage collective introversion and distance from anything that is not Jewish." He suggested that educators and teachers not seek a "holiday experience" in synagogues.

Aron said in the ancient east new year celebrations were a time of joy for the entire society. However, when it became a Jewish holiday, Rosh Hashana lost its character of a public holiday. (Itim)

Baram: Hamat Gader should remain in Israel even if Golan goes

HAIM SHAPIRO

TOURISM Minister Uzi Baram, usually considered one of the most dovish cabinet ministers, has come out with some hawkish comments regarding Syria.

Speaking at the opening of a new restaurant at Hamat Gader in the Golan Heights, he hinted that he believes that even if the Golan is returned to Syria, Hamat Gader should remain in Israel. Although Hamat Gader is in territory which officially belongs to Israel, the Syrians

occupied it during the years 1948 to 1967.

Baram said that everyone who knows his political views realizes they are not similar to those of the Third Way, but that with regard to Hamat Gader they agree.

Baram also expressed his doubts about Syrian President Hafez Assad's desire to compromise to achieve peace.

"If he wants peace so much, let

him be the victim of peace," Baram said.

During his visit to the North, Baram unveiled plans to double the number of accommodation rooms in Galilee from 2,500 to 5,000 by the beginning of the coming century. According to a master plan presented to the minister, the rooms will be needed for an expected flood of visitors coming as a result of the peace process and the 2000 celebration.

Child-murderer may get furlough after 14 years

RAINE MARCUS

PRISONER Zvi Gur, serving a life sentence for the kidnapping and murder of a 12-year-old boy, may finally be allowed out on a three-day furlough following a decision by the Prisons Service parole board yesterday.

However, although Gur meets criteria set by the Prisons Service, the police still have the final word on deciding if Gur is dangerous, in which case he would not be freed.

Gur, who has always protested his innocence, has never been out on furlough during the 14 years he has been in prison.

Around nine years ago, he escaped while doing work outside the prison walls and remained at large for nearly a week until a passenger on a bus he was riding on recognized him.

The Prisons Service decided

yesterday that if furloughed, Gur will be placed under house arrest for the full three days.

President Ezer Weizman has still not set Gur's sentence, but according to a new law passed recently, any prisoner serving a life sentence may be eligible for a furlough after serving seven or 10 years of his term - determined by the Prisons Service - regardless whether his sentence has been set.

Shahal: Stolen cars may end up in Persian Gulf or Iraq

STOLEN cars could be smuggled as far as Iraq once the Israel-Jordan border is opened for automobile traffic, Police Minister Moshe Shahal said this week.

"I assess that stolen Israeli cars will pass from Jordan to the Persian Gulf and from there even to Iraq," Shahal told a conference of insurance agents in Eilat.

Shahal said passenger car traffic would likely begin by November. But he warned that "will cause smuggling of stolen cars...similar to the way they are smuggled to the (Palestinian) autonomous areas" and Judea and Samaria, Shahal said.

Thousands of stolen cars are believed to have

reached the PLO-run areas of Gaza and Jericho since Palestinian autonomy was established there in May 1994. Officials project 30,000 car thefts in 1995, a 25 percent increase over the previous year.

Shahal said car thefts will cost the economy \$300 million this year. Only 40% of cars stolen are recovered.

He said Israel planned strict checks at the Jordanian border to prevent car smuggling. Shahal is also proposing a bill banning the sale of used car parts for three years - discouraging the practice of dismantling stolen cars and selling off their parts separately. (AP)

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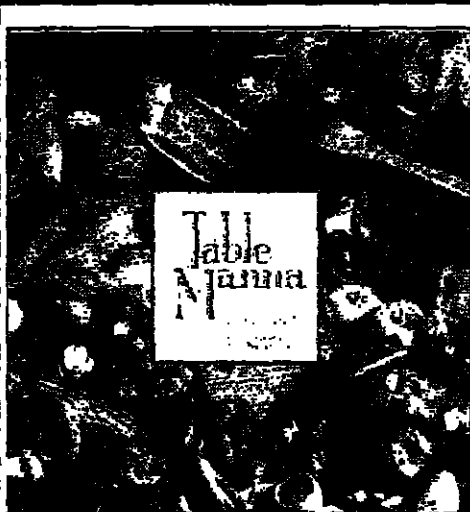


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Grenade fired at US Embassy in Moscow

OLEG SHCHEDROV
MOSCOW

UNKNOWN assailants fired a rocket-propelled grenade through the wall of the US Embassy in Moscow yesterday but it was stopped by a photocopying machine and caused no injuries, the embassy said.

No motive was known for the attack, on the eve of a visit by a top US official to Moscow to tackle a bitter rift with Washington over NATO air strikes in Bosnia.

Interfax news agency quoted Moscow's police chief as saying his forces had been put on red alert after the attack, a measure last known to have been employed in 1993 during a bloody riot by hardliners in Moscow.

The embassy said in a statement a grenade launcher, glove, black mask and brown bag used to carry the launcher were found in a courtyard opposite the embassy in central Moscow. There were conflicting reports on where the grenade was fired from.

The grenade penetrated the huge Stalin-era building on a busy Moscow street but left few visible signs on the facade — a small dent, several smashed windows and a damaged window ledge.

"At 4:25 p.m. today a rocket-propelled grenade impacted the front of the old US Embassy building on Novinsky Boulevard at the sixth-floor level. There were no injuries," said the embassy statement, read out by telephone.

"The grenade penetrated the wall and was stopped by a large copying machine."

There was no immediate reaction from US President Bill Clinton or Russian President Boris Yeltsin, although relations between their countries are already uneasy because of Bosnia.



Russian special force police officers stand in a cordon in front of the US Embassy shortly after yesterday's attack. A rocket-propelled grenade slammed into the embassy building in Moscow, but was stopped by a photocopy machine. (AP)

Police sealed off the yellow and white embassy building, completed in 1953. All staff were evacuated.

Moscow police chief Nikolai Kulikov put his men on red alert, Interfax said. A security source told the agency this empowered police to search cars and apartments at will.

"There is no kidding with such things. This was an act of terror on an international scale," Interfax quoted an official from an

unidentified secret service as saying.

The official said police had already put together an identikit of one of the attackers.

"This was a young man in his 30s, Caucasian, taller than average. He was dressed in light denim," he said.

Interfax quoted the FSB Federal Security Service as saying there was no evidence to suggest the attack was carried out by Russian nationalists or fighters

from rebel Chechnya.

Interfax news agency quoted Moscow police as saying the grenade was fired from a car passing along the boulevard. But Interfax quoted FSB officials as saying it was fired from the archway of an apartment block across the street.

In Washington, White House officials said Clinton had been told of the attack, on the eve of a visit to Moscow by US Deputy Secretary of State Strobe

Talbot.

Washington warned US citizens in St. Petersburg last month to take care over the next few weeks after its consulate in the city received a "credible report" of possible violent attacks against Americans.

Russian law enforcement agencies dismissed the warning as a false alarm but reacted to Wednesday's attack by tightening security at US diplomatic missions on Russian soil. (Reuters)

Rwanda defense chief says soldiers killed 100 villagers near Zaire

KANAMA, Rwanda (Reuters) — Rwandan Defense Minister Paul Kagame yesterday accused his own government soldiers of running amok and killing about 100 people in this village near Zaire, including the mayor who was shot in his bed.

Kagame visited Kanama village, a Hutu stronghold, and said his soldiers, who are mostly Tutsis, used "excessive" force in a rampage, apparently in retaliation for a nearby ambush on an army unit by Hutu infiltrators from Zaire.

"I was told about 100 people were killed," Kagame, who is also vice president and Rwanda's most powerful Tutsi politician, told Reuters in the first official admission of responsibility for Monday's early morning attack on Kanama.

"I regret what happened here and I will punish those soldiers who used excessive force," Kagame told a crowd.

Most of Kanama's dead were still unburied yesterday. The Hutu mayor, Celestine Setako, lay in a blood-covered bed with three bullet holes in his head. A book, comb and gas lamp lay on a nearby table. Hundreds of women wailed and sang hymns outside.

UN officials said 111 people were killed and 15 seriously wounded. The attackers shot villagers in their homes and gunned down any who tried to flee.

Most of the dead were ethnic Hutus. Villagers said the soldiers came at dawn and killed people in their sleep.

Kagame's Tutsi guerrilla

force came to power in July 1994 after driving the then Hutu government and its army into exile in Zaire following three months of civil war.

During the war government soldiers, militia and mobs of the majority Hutu tribe slaughtered up to one million Tutsis and moderate Hutus.

"We're trying to control the damage as soon as possible and discipline soldiers responsible for having gone on a rampage," said Kagame, who went to the village to offer his condolences.

He said the soldiers may have killed out of anger following the death of an army lieutenant in a nearby ambush.

"But my responsibility is to put them before the courts as person in charge of the army," he said.

Scientist: Blood stain contains genetic markers from Simpson, Goldman

LOS ANGELES (AP) — New test results found the genetic markers of O.J. Simpson and Ronald Goldman in a bloodstain in Simpson's car, an expert testified yesterday, supporting findings from another DNA test the defense claimed couldn't be trusted.

Gary Sims, a criminalist for the state, testified for the prosecution that the recently arrived results came from testing known as RFLP. He said to get an RFLP result, he had to combine three bloodstains from the console to get enough DNA for the test.

"The finding of that pattern on the console is consistent with the mixture and the banding pattern of the defendant Mr. Simpson and also the contribution of Mr. Goldman," Sims told jurors.

Under cross-examination, Sims acknowledged he didn't know how well Simpson's Ford Bronco was secured by police before the bloodstains he tested were collected, and he didn't know if the alleged lack of security of the vehicle compromised his test results.

Previously, prosecutors introduced a similar result from a more controversial genetic test called PCR, but defense expert John Gerdes testified that PCR wasn't accurate enough for use in criminal cases.

"What's the impact of your RFLP results... on Dr. Gerdes' criticism?" prosecutor Rockne Harmon asked.

"I think they — the RFLP re-

sults — do tend to undermine that because they do show consistency" with PCR, Sims said.

Jurors listened attentively. Some sat with their hands folded in their laps or across their stomachs, and only a few took notes as the trial revisited the arcane world of scientific evidence.

The defense tried to bar Sims' testimony on grounds the prosecution dragged its feet in producing the test results.

But Judge Lance Ito allowed it, saying: "The prosecution delay... was not deliberate and for the purpose of sandbagging or otherwise obtaining some tactical advantage."

Also yesterday, Ito rejected the defense's request to loosen the tough sequestration policy for jurors and let some panelists go home at night. Jurors have been confined to a hotel for eight months.

Prosecutors failed to show up for an early hearing and Ito fined them \$250. When prosecutor Marcia Clark complained that defense lawyers have showed up late to other hearings without a fine, Ito increased the fine to \$1,000.

Clark said the prosecution hopes to finish its case today, calling five more witnesses, including three scientists.

On Tuesday, a prosecution glove expert provided additional important evidence linking Simpson to a pair of bloody gloves collected after the June 12, 1994, murders.

Refugees flee as Serbs lose control of Bosnian town

SARAJEVO (Reuters) — Tens of thousands of Serb refugees fled their homes in central and western Bosnia yesterday after Moslem and Croat forces captured key towns in the area from Bosnian Serb troops, the UN said.

"It would appear that the town of Donji Vakuf has fallen," UN special envoy Yasushi Akashi told reporters in Zagreb.

In another development which could not immediately be confirmed, Croatian media in Zagreb said Croat forces had captured the strategic town of Jajce.

Bosnian Serb sources said up to 6,000 Serb soldiers were surrounded in the vicinity of Donji Vakuf and Serb civilians said the town was under serious threat.

Other UN officials were not immediately able to confirm the fall of the town. The Bosnian Serb Army would not comment.

Up to 50,000 Serb civilians were fleeing after advances by allied Croat and Bosnian government forces, international and local relief workers said.

The civilians were leaving Jajce, Drvar, Mrkonjic Grad, Kljuc and Donji Vakuf along the main road linking the northwest Bilac area to the central government town of Zenica, they said.

Refugees were streaming towards Banja Luka, the last Serb bastion in northwest Bosnia already crowded with up to 50,000 refugees from the Serb Krajina enclave in Croatia, which the Croats overran last month.

The exodus jammed roads south of Banja Luka. It followed reports that Croat and Moslem forces were making major gains against Serbs in central and western Bosnia, including the towns of Sipovo and Vozuca.

Rome committee approves naming street for fascist

ROME (Reuters) — Rome's mayor or faced growing opposition from Jews and his own leftist supporters yesterday as a plan to name a street after an architect of antisemitic laws during Fascist rule passed its first hurdle.

"What are we going to do next, give a street to [Mafia boss Salvatore] Totò? Riina if he turns state's evidence?" asked Claudio Fano, president of Rome's Jewish community.

The city government's name-changing committee voted 11-4 on Tuesday to approve mayor Francesco Rutelli's proposal to name a street after Giuseppe Bottai, who was an education minister during the wartime Fascist dictatorship of Benito Mussolini.

Bottai helped enact 1938 racial laws which ousted Jews from Italy's schools and universities and later from public jobs.

Rutelli has defended his proposal, saying Bottai was an intellectual in his own right who, as

Mussolini's "governor" of Rome, built new areas of the capital and began significant archaeological excavations.

The proposal now goes for a final vote before the city's executive committee, made up of Rutelli and his commissioners. The vote is scheduled for tomorrow but political sources said the controversy could push back the timetable.

The city council, which has no power over naming streets, was expected to debate the issue on Monday and possibly adopt a motion urging Rutelli to drop the plan.

The proposal has raised cries of protest from Rome's Jewish community, which supported Rutelli in the December 1992 election over his main opponent, hard-right leader Gianfranco Fini who emerged from the neo-fascist Italian Social Movement.

Some of Rutelli's leftist supporters in the council have also openly criticized him.

WORLD BRIEFS

Russia pulling troops from Chechnya

GROZNY, Russia (AP) — Russia has pulled 8,000 troops out of Chechnya in the past five days, news agencies said yesterday. Russian military officials said the troops pulled out of Chechnya included support units and a special rapid reaction unit. They also claimed the rebels were beefing up guerrilla units in the wake of the pullouts.

France holds 12 in search for bombers

PARIS (Reuters) — French police investigating a spate of bomb attacks detained 12 people yesterday in fresh swoops on suspected Moslem fundamentalist hideouts, officials said. The only suspect directly identified, Algerian-born Khaled Kelhal, 24, whose fingerprints were found on an unexploded bomb planted last month by a high-speed railway line near Lyon, has so far evaded police.

France bans book by Moslem militants

PARIS (AP) — France has banned imports of a book on Algerian government repression, calling it an "appeal to hatred" and a threat to public order, *Le Monde* reported yesterday. The ban of the Swiss-published *White Paper on Algerian Repression* reveals the extent of France's feeling of insecurity following this summer's wave of bloody terrorist attacks.

The book's authors are at the very least supporters, if not members, of the Algerian extremist Islamic Salvation Front, the French daily said.

Jeremy Brett, TV's Sherlock Holmes, dies

LONDON (AP) — Jeremy Brett, the actor who brought the legendary detective Sherlock Holmes to life on television, has died at the age of 59. Granada Television said Brett, star of the 41 episodes of its *Sherlock Holmes* series, died of heart failure in his sleep early Tuesday, at his London home.

Brett's portrayal of Holmes was regarded as one of the finest ever. Tall and dark, with a hawk-like profile and piercing eyes, he seemed made for the part.

Model for 'Zivago' heroine dead at 82

MOSCOW (AP) — Olga Ivinskaya, the mistress of Boris Pasternak who became the model for his heroine, Lara, in the novel *Dr. Zhivago*, and twice jailed because of her relationship with the author, has died at age 82. Doctor *Zhivago*, a sweeping, critical portrait of the Russian Revolution, earned Pasternak the Nobel Prize for literature in 1958 — and the enduring enmity of the Soviet regime.

101 years later, French military officially declares Dreyfus innocent

PARIS (AP) — For the first time since Jewish army captain Alfred Dreyfus was falsely accused of spying 101 years ago, the French military has officially recognized that it framed an innocent man.

Last week Gen. Jean-Louis Mourrut, head of the army's history department, called the Dreyfus affair a "military conspiracy which led to the conviction and deportation of an innocent man, and partially on the basis of a falsified document."

His comments marked a significant change in the military's official treatment of the famed affair. Last year, Mourrut's predecessor was

fired for writing an article in an army publication suggesting Dreyfus was, in fact, guilty. Speaking last week to a Jewish group at the Paris City Hall, or Hotel de Ville, Mourrut said the case revealed much "about the period, French society and the army."

French Jewish groups were delighted with the declarations by Mourrut, in charge of sprucing up the army's public image regarding its past.

"The general told us things never before uttered by the military," said Jean Kahn, head of France's Jewish community. "This is definitely progress."

Japan's prime minister arrives for tour of Middle East

MIKE JACOBS
TOKYO

LEGEND has it that some remnant of one of those endless Lost Tribes of Israel made it to the Japanese islands at the other side of Asia. It's taken a couple of thousand years for the return journey, but at last a Japanese leader is about to land in Israel for the first time ever.

Murayama arrived yesterday in Saudi Arabia at the start of his eight-day Middle East tour, and will continue to Egypt, Syria, Israel (tomorrow and Saturday) and Jordan. He plans to also visit Gaza to see PLO leader Yasser Arafat, the Foreign Ministry said.

His visit is the third to the Middle East by a Japanese prime minister, but it is the first time one will embrace Israel openly.

A Foreign Ministry official told *The Jerusalem Post* that the prime minister is on a mission to help secure lasting peace in the oil-producing region so vital to energy-starved Japan. This indeed is probably the bottom line.

On the agenda for Murayama's visit, apart from continuing access to regional resources, is the question of stationing Japanese troops on the Golan Heights. Japan is keen to show an ongoing involvement in the Middle East peace process and to drum up more support for its bid to gain a permanent seat on the UN Security Council.

There are also opportunities for Japanese investment and for participation in regional projects for transportation and

water.

Jordan has strongly backed Japan's bid for the Security Council. "We wish to tell the Japanese leader that our role in the Gulf War was greatly mis-reported, and we are all for the peace process," a Jordanian government official said. That message that will be easier to sell following the peace treaty with Israel and King Hussein's actions in the wake of the senior Iraqi defections to Jordan.

Jordan is keen to involve Japan in the development of tourism centered on the new airport project serving both Eilat and Aqaba.

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak was hosted royally in Tokyo earlier this year, and will welcome the chance to return the hospitality. An Egyptian diplomat in Tokyo believes this trip "will give Japan access to assess the background of the peace process, developments over Iraq and investment opportunities like tourism."

Japan's relations with the Middle East have historically centered on the Gulf area and been based on maintaining continuous fuel supplies for its hungry economy.

Israel of course has no oil. That guaranteed Japan's firm pro-Arab policies until the Gulf War and the peace process

changed the regional political scene and, in particular, weakened the Arab boycott.

Now Israel has taken its place with a firm footing in Japan's foreign and economic ministries. Last year, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin became the first Israeli leader to visit Japan, and in the same year trade turnover between the two states touched \$1 billion each.

"This trip is very important for two reasons," an Israeli Embassy spokesman in Tokyo told the *Post*. "First it will give Japan a chance to fulfill its obligations in international peacekeeping. This is a huge political step for Japan."

"Secondly it will allow the Japanese to discover a huge potential for economic investment as part of a multinational team tackling projects in water, transportation and tourism."

On the other hand, the Israeli government intends to make absolutely clear that Japanese assistance to Iran is viewed with great displeasure. The second phase of a Japanese Overseas Development Aid loan to Teheran has been frozen for nearly 18 months, but Japan is hoping to argue for defrosting it when Murayama meets President Bill Clinton in October.

The Palestinians too will be happy to see

the Japanese arrive in their area. Their representative office in Tokyo was closed recently due to lack of money. Murayama wants to see first-hand what is being done for Gaza's infrastructure with the \$150 million paid in Japanese grant aid so far.

Some experts see the present tour as more of an inspection tour of the UN obligations Japan has shouldered in the region, and a chance to look again at how effective Japan could be both as a contributor to peacekeeping and as a potential Security Council member.

The timing of the trip is significant insofar as when it was arranged — a few months ago. In May, Japan received an informal request from the UN about providing troops to replace Canadians on the UN Disengagement Observer Force on the Golan.

At that time, the ruling coalition was composed of an ultra-conservative body with a Socialist head. Murayama led a party strongly committed to keeping Japan's Self Defense Forces in non-military roles on overseas missions.

The coalition agreement to dispatch military personnel to the Golan Heights was finalized a couple of weeks ago, helped no doubt by the belief that it is the safest posting around, and that such regional commitment would be a pre-requisite to being accepted on the Security Council.

The writer reports for *The Jerusalem Post* from Japan

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A reversal of roles

THE Palestinian Authority announced yesterday that Ibrahim Naffar, a member of Hamas's Izzadin Kassam military wing, was killed while handling explosives in a Gaza apartment. Naffar, the announcement said, had escaped from police custody after being arrested with two accomplices.

To anyone who does not follow the news from Gaza closely, the story may sound unexceptionable. Few remember that Naffar was involved in a dramatic eight-day hunt, touted as an example of Israel-PA cooperation in the fight against Islamic terrorism.

On August 10, Israel imposed a closure on Gaza, announcing that it had received information that Hamas member Wael Nasser, who was planning a suicide bombing in Tel Aviv, was hiding in the Strip. The PA, which was reported to have agreed to the closure, announced it was conducting a massive search for him. On August 18 Nasser and two accomplices - one of whom was Naffar, the other Awad Silmi, wanted for the murder of an Israeli - were surrounded in Naffar's apartment in Sheikh Radwan, one of Gaza City's pro-Hamas neighborhoods.

Triumphantly, the Palestinian Police announced the capture of the three after a short gunfight with 1,000 local residents who had tried to prevent some 200 policemen from entering the building. Israel promptly lifted the closure.

Only later was it revealed that the three Hamas terrorists surrendered to the police only after they had made a deal: Nasser would spend only a short time in jail, and the accomplices would be released immediately.

Yesterday the PA announced that Naffar had escaped from police custody soon after his capture. But the apartment in which he was killed preparing explosives was his own. Obviously, he was not in hiding; the PA had kept its part of the bargain and Naffar had been released.

All this can only mean one thing: the PA's war on terrorism is a sham. PA chairman Yasser Arafat is obviously not averse to arresting and humiliating Hamas leaders who compete with him for power and popularity. He may also use the arrests to pressure Hamas to agree not to mount terrorist attacks from the self-rule areas. But he is not about to hunt down those who commit the very acts he praises in every speech.

Israel's response to Arafat's conduct is limited not by legal constraints but by its commitment to "progress" in the peace process. Not surprisingly, Justice Minister David Liba'i, though a confirmed dove, is in sharp disagreement with Foreign Minister Shimon Peres on this issue. As a jurist, he is clearly offended by the PA's obvious circumvention of the Oslo and

Cairo agreements. He has openly condemned the three-minute fake trials of wanted terrorists, intended not to incarcerate them but to protect them from extradition. Like Israel's security services, he is aware that the terrorists sentenced by the PA will spend little more time in prison than Naffar did.

Unfortunately, Israel does not seem to want to use even the one obvious recourse the agreements make available. According to the Cairo agreement, Israel can demand to interrogate wanted terrorists in areas under PA control. (Annex III, Article II (b): "Where the statement of a non-Israeli witness present in the Territory is required for an Israeli investigation, the statement shall be taken by the Palestinian Police in the presence of an Israeli police officer in a Palestinian Facility at an agreed location.")

Exercising this right would be particularly important now, since the numerous intelligence sources in Gaza and Jericho have dried up. As army intelligence chief-of-research Brig-Gen Ya'acov Amidror told the Knesset Foreign and Security Affairs Committee on Tuesday, "Israel's intelligence capabilities in the Gaza Strip have been reduced to zero, and a similar situation is liable to prevail in Judea and Samaria when we transfer control to the Palestinian Authority."

But if yesterday's pronouncements by Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, Peres and Environment Minister Yossi Sarid are any indication, Israel will insist neither on the extradition of the wanted terrorists nor on their interrogation. Eager to find the silver lining in the PA's latest violation of the agreement, Rabin quipped to journalists in Kiev that the seven-year prison sentence the killers of Uri Shabor and Ohad Bachrach at Wadi Kelt received in Jericho was not such a bad outcome after all. "In Israel I have seen the likes of them released after only four years in prison," he said.

The government's eagerness not to let terrorism get in the way of the peace process may be understandable. The Oslo agreement might collapse if it did. But it may be instructive to examine the difference between Israel's position on wanted killers and the way the US and the Western democracies have treated Libya's refusal to extradite the two men involved in the bombing of Pan Am 103 over Lockerbie.

Offers by Libya to try the men on Libyan soil, even in the presence of foreign observers, were summarily rejected. On American and British insistence, tough international sanctions have been imposed on Libya and observed by almost all nations except Egypt. In what seems to be a reversal of roles, Israel has become soft on terrorism, while the West displays determination and resolve.

ISN'T IT WONDERFUL?
RAIN IN THE MIDDLE OF
THE SUMMER!



Rabin's playing with fire

URI DAN
DENNIS EISENBERG

OVER a week has passed since the murder of Daniel Frei by a knife-wielding Palestinian terrorist in his Ma'aleh Michmash home, some 12 km. from Jerusalem. The shock of the brutal attack on Daniel and his pregnant wife Mara in this predominantly "Anglo-Saxon" settlement is heightened daily by the government's callous indifference.

According to 32-year-old Shimon Riklin, an Israeli-born resident of Ma'aleh Michmash:

"There isn't a single soldier anywhere near the settlement to protect us, night or day. Somebody else could be knifed to death at any time. Our prime minister and his government couldn't care less what happens to us. We have simply been abandoned."

"The army sent a jeep for a few days, then vanished."

"They want us to run away. But we won't. We'll be here long after Rabin has gone."

The anxiety is understandable. Riklin and his wife live two doors away from the Frei home. The murderer first targeted Riklin's home, but the family dog frightened him away. The murderer then broke into the Frei home.

Riklin resents claims that settlers in Ma'aleh Michmash rejected the offer of a protective fence.

The army's proposal was to build a fence a mere five meters from the residents' homes which, settlers claim, would have been useless. Any Palestinian bent on murder could approach it and fire away at his human targets from point-black range.

Over the past few days, the settlers have built a road encircling Ma'aleh Michmash about 100 meters from their homes. This is where they want the security fence to be built.

According to an intelligence expert we spoke to, security

chiefs have attuned themselves to the government's belief that Arafat will clamp down on Hamas and its suicide bombers. Some security heads are feeding the premier with fallacious claims that this policy is working.

The settlers of Ma'aleh Michmash and, indeed, the rest of the country have seen how resolutely this policy is being carried out.

ARAFAT HAS demanded to be allowed to appoint two known

Can he go along with
PLO killers
as security chiefs
in Nablus
and Ramallah?

PLO killers as security chiefs in Nablus and Ramallah, towns the government is passing over to Palestinian Authority control.

Abu Firas, 48, born in a village close to Jerusalem, was responsible for a terrorist attack in the capital's Jaffa Road in the 1970s. He was also involved in the Munich Olympics massacre in 1972.

Then-prime minister Golda Meir ordered Abu Firas and the rest of the PLO gang involved in the massacre to be hunted down and killed. Abu Firas escaped at least one attempt on his life before seeking shelter in Tunisia.

Now Arafat wants him as his

lawman in Ramallah. The second thug with the blood of both Jews and Arabs on his hands is Mahmoud Al-Auloul. Based in Tunisia for many years, he was overall commander of all PLO terrorist attacks in Samaria. Arafat now wants him as the

boss of all police and security affairs in Nablus; and he expects him to adopt the ruthless style of Jibril Rajoub, Arafat's security chief for Judea and Samaria.

In deciding how to react to the importing of these hit-men, Rabin finds himself in great difficulty.

On one side is the repugnance many Israelis feel at the prospect of having murderers given free reign so close to major cities, with thousands of armed "police" under their command. This is causing growing civil unrest, whose consequences could be very grave.

On the other side is Rabin's belief, shared by Shimon Peres, that Arafat can be relied upon to curb Hamas.

The PLO gangsters are well equipped to launch a reign of terror among fellow Palestinians. This is current government theory. Even pro-Arafat supporters admit that he is increasingly behaving like a ruthless tyrant.

As a security professional told us: "The two horns of Rabin's dilemma over accepting Arafat's most bloodthirsty chieftains now resemble the horns of the devil himself. The outcome of giving free rein to men like Abu Firas, Al-Auloul and Jibril Rajoub is predictable."

They have the same aims as Hamas, the professional explained. Why should they anger the vast majority of the Arab population both in Israel and the territories by attacking men regarded as heroes and martyrs?

"The present policy will open up a hornet's nest of terrorism, the like of which this country has never seen," said the security man.

The writers are authors of The Mossad: Secrets of the Israeli Secret Service and other books on the Middle East.

A recipe for anarchy

AMNON RUBINSTEIN

RECKLESS disregard for public order and safety, unprecedented disruption of traffic, disrespect for the law and utter contempt for the police have been plaguing the country.

The source of this chaos is a fringe group of right-wing protesters from the so-called Zo Artzenu ("This is Our Land") group.

In their futile attempts to rally massive support against the government's peace negotiations on autonomy and redeployment in the West Bank, Zo Artzenu members have introduced previously taboo methods of making political statements:

- Using small children (including babies) at mass sit-ins, thrusting them forward so they witness direct confrontation with the security forces;

- Blocking major intersections and highways, causing endless traffic jams and disrupting the lives of scores of thousands of commuters;

- Scuffling with, and verbally abusing, police and soldiers during illegal and rowdy demonstrations;

- Calling for revolt and non-adherence to laws.

Like anyone else, these protesters have the right to voice their opinion. However, by trampling on the nation's civil code of ethics, they mock the laws and authority that guarantee their freedom of expression.

The members of Zo Artzenu should realize that their chosen means of expression is counterproductive to their cause. Commuters stuck in traffic jams aren't exactly potential sympathizers.

UNLESS WE take immediate measures to control these right-

No one is saying
Zo Artzenu can't
voice an opinion.
But its demonstrators
have taken a
dangerous route

wing outbreaks and put an end to the lawlessness, these outbreaks will ravage the nation's soul.

This is more than random violence directed at the public and the security forces. We are witnessing an unparalleled display of unlawful disturbance.

Most of all we are seeing the crossing of long-standing red lines. Political methods of the kind espoused by Zo Artzenu are a fine recipe for destroying the basis of our existence as we have defined it since the founding of the state.

Zo Artzenu demonstrators have adopted the tactics used by our foes. For years, we have been protesting the way our adversaries have planted children at the head of demonstrations, something we saw in the refugee camps. Afterwards, we would count the casualties.

When I and others like me were in the opposition, we condemned the refusal of army reservists to serve in the territories as a symbol of discontent with the policy of creeping annexation through the proliferation of new settlements.

Back then I warned that disdain for the law was a prescription for anarchy. Who makes the laws in this country - elected officials, or a bunch of misguided offenders bent on destroying our foundations for the sake of political gain?

As the talks with the Palestinians move into high gear, the threats to society posed by Zo Artzenu are an imminent danger.

This country has taken a long and arduous route in the attempt to reach an accommodation with our enemies. It has been a seemingly endless, frustrating journey.

Surely we can find a way to bridge our differences in a manner more suitable to an enlightened society than the path Zo Artzenu has chosen.

Let's do it now, before events take an irreversible turn toward a dark era of turbulence and insurrection.

The writer is Minister of Education, Culture and Sport.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

KIBBUTZ SASA

Sir - It is gratifying to note that The Jerusalem Post pays tribute to the founders of Kibbutz Sasa in its articles on the kibbutz of July 22, 1994, and August 21, 1995. However, in the latter article, by Irving Moskowitz, there is a definitely unfair comparison to the West Bank settlers.

Mr. Moskowitz quotes selectively from our 1949 diary, implying that we had no misgivings about occupying an Arab village. But the beginning of the quoted paragraph reads: "I am thinking of the deserted village of Sasa... and the lives of the Arabs who lived here."

And a further quote from our Pesach Haggada of the same year: "Once there was an Arab village here. The clouds of Sasa floated high over others one year ago. The men worked their plots and tended their flocks while women busied themselves at baking their bread... And when we came the desolation of their lives cried to us through the ruins they left behind. Cried to us and reached our hearts, colored our everyday lives."

This hardly reads as "never seem to have been particularly troubled about their past."

Here are some points for a true picture. At the end of hostilities in Galilee, in 1949, we were sent to establish the first Jewish settlement in this border area to help ensure the existence of the fledgling Jewish State. This was a top-priority security spot and we had no choice of site. Our first agricultural instructor was a respected farmer from the Arab village Jish (Gush Halav). From then until now, we have excellent personal and business relations with our surrounding Arab neighbors.

It is not correct to compare historical events that occurred under different circumstances, and it is obvious that neither we nor the right-wing settlers can be flattered by your correspondent's comparison. Our motivations are completely different.

KOCHAVET AND ESHEL SPIRO

Kibbutz Sasa.

SADDENING EVENT

Sir - As a longtime subscriber to The Jerusalem Post I have read many articles that irritated me and more that did the opposite. It seldom happens that I feel obliged to react. But Michael Yudelman's remarks of September 1 about Ariel Sharon told nothing about the event described. Nothing about good people, caring for Israel. I went to the rose garden every day of the hunger strike she writes about. I always saw MK Sharon swamped by admirers that called him lovingly Arik. The man got an ovation at closing night from all those who had been allowed to reach the site. Hunger strikers, most respected men and women as well as visitors, were clearly distressed, even desperate about what is happening in their disappearing country. Sharon himself (a political heavyweight as I see him) could not have been more sincere when he anguished about this undemocratic government that does not allow dissent to be heard. It was a very sad occasion. How Yudelman could handle this material in such a denigrating way is incomprehensible.

LEA DE LANGE
Jerusalem.

'DAVID'

Sir - It is astonishing that the opera commissioned, written and even produced in celebration of Jerusalem's history will not be among the events of Jerusalem 2000.

In 1945 Darius Milhaud completed David, which was premiered in our capital that year. It was then offered at La Scala, which lavished more than 20 rehearsals on Milhaud's epic work.

Later, in Los Angeles, David was produced at the famed Hollywood Bowl with more than 400 in the company. The opera was well received everywhere. What a pity that it has been apparently consigned to oblivion in King David's own land of Israel.

MOTTY BIRNBERG
Beersheba.

AUGUST 24

DEMONSTRATION

Sir - We would be most interested in receiving English-language, eye-witness, first-person accounts from anyone who was in any way involved in the demonstration which took place in Jerusalem on Thursday, August 24. We would also be interested in any photographic material obtained in the time immediately leading up to and during the aforementioned demonstration. It is our intention to include such material in a report which we are in the process of compiling, to be submitted to the UN Human Rights Commission.

Please send eyewitness accounts, signed and if possible typed, and any pertinent photographic material, to the undersigned at P.O. Box 94, Ramat Yishai 30093. Complete confidentiality will be assured.

A. NAPPER
Ramat Yishai.

AMERICAN BANKS

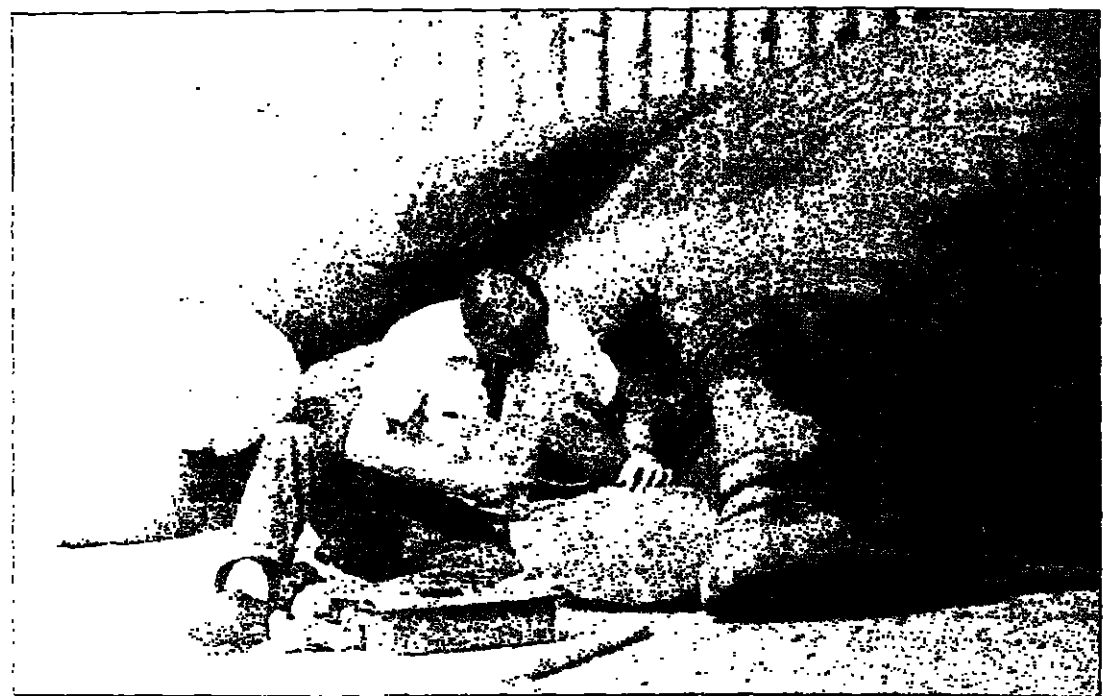
Sir - Why an Israeli bank is allowed or entitled to use the word "American" in its title is hard for me to understand or to accept. This usage is misleading, misrepresentation, as well as entrapment. An American immigrant and/or tourist is drawn by the name, but quickly becomes aware of the bank's kitzpa in using "American."

I have been a client of American banks for the past 60 years. I have been a client (prospective) of Israeli banks for the past 16 years. What a difference in service and charges! A simple checking account with any US bank is free. A simple checking account in Israel is quite expensive. In addition, a simple savings account in Israeli banks can be a costly venture.

Americanization of Israeli banks, indeed! It should only be true! I am hoping that I will live long enough to experience this change, but I am afraid that the 120 figure is not long enough.

JOSEPH MEHLMAN
Jerusalem.

PICTURE POSTSCRIPT



Well, how would you give an elephant a pedicure? This London Zoo pachyderm gets 12 hours of foot attention a week.

POSTSCRIPT

A WORLD WAR ONE veteran married a lady nearly half his age after telling war stories that won her heart.

George Brumwell Jameson, 102, and Julie Robinson, 53, were married on the Devonshire coast southwest of London.

Jameson said he was "jolly lucky" to have found the perfect companion so late in life. "We are very much in love with

each other in spite of the age difference," he said. "I don't give a damn what people think - age does not matter to me."

Robinson saw Jameson appear on a TV documentary about the war, wrote to him for more information, and eventually traveled to his home.

"George is the funniest and kindest man I have ever known," she said.

The veteran is believed to be one of only nine surviving members of the British Expeditionary Force sent to France in the opening days of the war in 1914.

He fought in some of the worst battles of the war: Ypres, the Somme, Cambrai and Vimy Ridge. He won a Military Cross, one of the British army's highest honors, during action on the Piazze in Italy.

مكتبة الراس

Find a balance between safety and serenity

DEAR RUTHIE
RUTHIE BLUM



Dear Ruthie, The tragic events which have occurred of late have made me even more of a worried parent than I already was. I will not let my family members ride public buses, and I forbid my teenagers to attend any festival where there are large numbers of people present. This has caused many quarrels at our home. Even my husband thinks I am turning all of us into nervous wrecks. I am aware that one cannot stop living to prevent harm from coming to us, but in times like these aren't precautionary measures in order?

Parents in Panic
Somewhere in Israel
Dear P in P,

You must take any precaution you feel comfortable with, especially during unpredictable times. However, turning your family into "nervous wrecks" does more to escalate anxiety than it does to shield any of you from danger. True, finding the right balance between physical safety and emotional serenity is one of those tasks easier to pontificate on than to perform.

But, if you begin to experience your fears as panic or phobia, counseling might be of help.

It would be a shame for you and your family to become victims of another sort of terror.

Dear Ruthie,

I took a class to learn how to play bridge. The class meets once a week. I find it both stimulating and relaxing. The class will soon come to an end.

My wife and I know two couples who get together regularly to play the game. I can't wait to begin joining them.

My wife, on the other hand, can't stand the game. (I think this is because she hasn't played in years, and should give it another try.) How can I convince her to do it for me?

Waterlogged Without a Bridge
Jerusalem

Dear Bridgeless,
Convincing your wife to give the game another try for you

sake is not your real problem. Your real problem is what to do if she goes along and still isn't interested.

If you and your wife have even a reasonably good relationship, you will be able to coax her to open her mind about playing a hand or two simply by conveying its importance to you.

But do not attempt to make her feel guilty and disloyal in the event that her appetite is not whetted. Then you'll both end up unhappy.

You might start looking for an alternative partner, perhaps someone from your class. There are more ways than one to build a bridge.

Dear Ruthie,

I am from the US, and my husband is Israeli. One thing we argue over frequently is the "manners vs. honesty" question.

If someone asks me if I like her hair or dress or new couch, I always pay a compliment, though I try not to lie. This drives my husband crazy, since he always says exactly what he thinks.

He claims that if someone asks his opinion, he should give it. I think it is rude and insulting to tell someone you don't like something he's just bought or written, etc. How can we settle this? What is your stand?

Manner-Minded
Jerusalem

Dear Manner-Minded,
I believe that when someone asks an opinion about anything after the fact, s/he is actually inviting praise. Those interested in honest opinions tend to solicit them prior to the purchase or decision.

You and your husband will have to agree to disagree. You are right in not wanting to be rude; he is right in being honest. After all, anyone asking an opinion is taking a risk that the opinion will not be to his/her liking.

Letters should be addressed to: "Dear Ruthie," POB 81, 91000 Jerusalem. (Ruthie regrets not being able to guarantee publication of every letter, but will answer every letter received.)

YOSEF GOELL

WELCOME to the "me" generation, in which "self-actualization" and "feeling good" are all.

In American education, this is manifested in a growing emphasis on private schools. Parents who can afford it are increasingly eschewing off-the-rack, production-line education for the masses. At the same time, public education is being neglected.

In this country, a number of elite schools, specializing in the arts, sciences, environmental studies, etc. have sprouted up in recent years. As is the case with our "gray medicine," which combines private medicine with an exploitation of public medical facilities (thereby cutting the astronomical costs of American-style private treatment), our specialized schools are ensconced within the framework of the state-funded public-school system.

Critics of these specialized schools often charge that they circumvent the integration of diverse students. This integration has been a characteristic of our junior and senior high schools for the past 25 years.

One of the most impressive examples of such specialized schools is Jerusalem's Academy of Arts and Sciences. A residential school which has been operating for six years, its current intake consists of 170 students from all over the country. It is dedicated to the concept of excellence in education, a commitment enhanced by its beautiful campus cradled near the Eneq Refaim valley between the Kiryat Hayovel and Malha neighborhoods.

Rafi Amram, the academy's founder and principal, vehemently denies that his school is bad for integration. He notes that, in having a roster which includes 30 new immigrants, 10 religiously observant pupils (in an otherwise secular school), children from kibbutzim and 10 Arabs, (Moslems, Christians and Beduin), the school is unique.

A couple of weeks ago the elite school hosted a week-long seminar devoted to the links between creativity and moral behavior. Four top US academic experts in psychology and education led the seminar's workshops and addressed its concluding day-long public session.

Over 400 educators, ministry and school administrators, teachers and counselors (many of them men, despite the renowned feminization of the teaching profession) overflowed the auditorium, only two days before the opening of the new school year, to hear of



Panelists in the discussion on 'Forging Links Between Creativity and Moral Behavior,' from left, Professors William Damon, Ellen Winner, Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi and Howard Gardner.

some of the new trends in American educational thinking. The message brought by the visiting experts was summed up in the seminar's program, which said: "Sooner or later, the quality of community life in any society will suffer unless the society's leading achievements become dedicated to the common good. This has been widely recognized in many traditional civilizations, where the worth of any innovation is tested against a standard of social responsibility. Indeed, classic philosophy has always linked the true and the good, the beautiful and the useful."

"Yet, modern culture has been drifting away from any sense of union between creative achievement and social responsibility. Instead, we see an ever-widening gap between, on the one hand, acts of creativity, discovery and

self-expression and, on the other, ethical and moral concerns.

At the same time, the fabric of community in contemporary society is clearly fraying.

"We believe that the co-occurrence of these two trends is not accidental, and that it is ominous for our civilization."

Speaking on the subject of forging a link between creativity and moral responsibility, Prof. William Damon, of Brown University's education department, said that one of the characteristics of creative people is that they do not compartmentalize their lives. Rather they constantly integrate their personal and professional goals with their moral values.

IN HIS recent book *Greater Expectations*, Damon argues that as

a culture, the US has come to accept some very dangerous beliefs about raising children - beliefs that have produced "a generation of poorly educated, apathetic and amoral children."

Drawing on his research and work in schools, Damon presents a program that would reintroduce intellectual rigor in education, capitalize on children's moral virtues and stem the tide of moral relativism that he says dominates American schools.

According to Damon, the priority given to the comfort and happiness of the child has aggravated the decline in educational rigor and the sense of moral responsibility. This is expressed in the emphasis on "self-esteem" and "feeling good about oneself" rather than in serving others. The irony of it all, he finds, is that there are so many unhappy kids.

Damon wants the introduction of youth charters to instill a sense of community in youngsters.

Another of the panelists, Prof. Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi, quoted Plato in saying that the purpose of education "is to help young people find pleasure in doing the right things." To which he added, "The problem is that we are apparently biologically programmed to get pleasure not necessarily from the right things, and all the more so in the modern world, with its growing emphasis on sex, drugs, mindless consumerism and the like."

But what are the "right things"?

According to Csikszentmihalyi, they are "those that allow for the development of the individual's potential; those that make possible living in human society," and those that make any culture richer and more complex.

Csikszentmihalyi has teamed up with Damon and fellow-panelist Prof. Howard Gardner of Harvard to study "humane creativity" at the Stanford University Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences. He has conducted in-depth interviews with close to 100 leading creative artists, scientists and thinkers - most of them in their late 60s to 90s - in an attempt to draw on their life experiences.

In this study he found that nearly all his subjects were motivated in their creative lives by important values (often hidden behind their professionalism). This only came out in the private interviews, and many admitted that they would have been embarrassed to propound these humane values openly or teach them to their students.

He noted that most adults had lost the conviction that they have the right to tell their children what to do. He added that the same phenomenon cropped up at the Jerusalem Academy workshop, at which the attitude of many teachers was: "Who am I to impose my values on the kids?"

He found much more positive responses among the 14- and 15-year-olds at the workshops (and was extremely impressed by their ability to express themselves in English). This was an expression of the natural idealism of that age, he explained. "But even there," he added, "much of this youthful idealism was expressed in terms of their right to do their own thing."

"I say that part of being a teacher includes the need to impart values and the sense of a social covenant, which alone makes social life enriching and possible."

As American as apple pie - almost

PROF. Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi is the first to admit that his moniker is a challenging mouthful. So did he ever consider Americanizing it? "No, I drew the red line at that. The name means St. Michael's valley, which refers to a tiny valley in Transylvania. But I was born in Fiume [in Croatia], where my father had served as Hungarian consul. I came to the US at an early age, and I am very American in many ways. But I was determined to

keep my family name."

Chairman of the psychology department at the top-flight University of Chicago and a leading authority in the psychology of peak experiences and creativity, Prof. Csikszentmihalyi is proud of the fact that his two adult children have also insisted on retaining the family name. For other American and Israeli mortals who find wrapping their tongues around that little piece of Hungary daunting, he is known as "Mike."

To loosen up the household wares in your life, learn to lubricate

FIX IT YOURSELF

TAL KATZ

ONE annoyance commonly taken lying down is the phenomenon of stuck, jammed, or creaking household wares. It appears to be easier to build up the old biceps by jiggling, prying and pounding than it is to learn to lubricate.

Trying to figure out which oil to select - and how and where to apply the stuff - could make even the Tin Man exit the hardware store and return to Oz with rusty relief. Here's how to loosen up your life. For muscular arms, join a gym.

Materials required: aerosol can of penetrating oil (*shemen koder*); aerosol can of anti-rust lubricant (*shemen monea haluda*); container or can of sewing-machine oil (*shemen mekhamot ifira*); graphite powder (*avkat grafrit*) - to be purchased from a locksmith (if you request a small amount, it will be given to you in a piece of paper - the way the spice za'atar is sold); aerosol can of switch cleaning lubricant (*spray maga'im*) - to be purchased at electron-

ics supply stores; a nozzle (*tzinorit l'fia shel spray*) for each can (if it is not attached to the product, request from the salesperson); a small hammer (*pe-shik*). It's worth investing in each of these products. A little goes a long way, they do not spoil, and each costs less than NIS 15.

Penetrating oil has extremely low viscosity, which enables it to seep into tiny crevices and lubricate even hard-to-reach spots. It can be used on metal or plastic.

The items which tend to get jammed are those which are exposed to the elements (gate hinges, faucets, garden hoses, bike locks, etc. - particularly in the coastal region, where salty air accelerates corrosion) and those indoor items which come in frequent contact with moisture, detergents and heat (washing machine doors, blender blades and sliding doors). Things which are out of use for seasons at a time (suitcases and fans) are also vulnerable. The parts which jam are the hinges, locks, rotating blades, and nuts

and bolts.

Application: attach the skinny plastic nozzle to the hole in the head of the aerosol can. Read instructions on the label, since brands vary slightly. Spray along the crevice where two moving parts meet, with the tip of the nozzle touching the area (along the shaft of a hinge, for example, or along the edge of a nut, where it touches the bolt). Wait a good half hour, and then tap gently with a small hammer to loosen. If free movement is still not achieved, repeat the process.

After loosening is complete, spray anti-rust lubricant on the same area (if the parts are steel or iron), or drip sewing-machine oil onto it (if the parts are plastic or other metals). This use of viscous oil after loosening will prevent future jamming.

Anti-rust lubricant is used for iron and steel items which must be kept rust-free on a regular basis. These include: firearms, car locks and hinges, bike cables and gears, and roller-skate wheels. If such items get rusty, they must be sanded with a steel brush, emery paper or steel wool before applying anti-rust lubricant.

Note: each of these oils is interchangeable, but it is most effective to use each for its specific function.

Graphite powder (the material pencil lead is made of) should be used to loosen toothed keys which stick or jam when inserted into cylinder locks (requiring a lot of tugging and jiggling). Do not apply oils for this purpose, since cold temperatures cause even penetrating oil to become viscous - which can prevent free movement of small parts.

(You can make your own powder by scraping the lead from a pencil with a utility knife.)

To apply: hold the unfolded paper containing the graphite in the palm of your hand, and dip the teeth of the key into it. Insert and extract the key. Then dip again and repeat insertion. Do this three or four times. Once the key moves freely in the lock, you should clean it with a dry tissue.

Switch-cleaning (contact) lubricant cleans and maintains electronic plugs and sockets. (Though it can also be used on certain electrical appliance panels as well, we're only dealing here with electronic equipment.) Stereo systems, TV games, detachable car radios, computers, etc., all have sockets and plugs (not the ones connecting them to the electricity, but rather, the kind which connects a printer to a computer, or headphones to a TV or stereo).

Note: Do not apply to CD/VCR/tape-recorder heads, electrical sockets and plugs, computer key-

boards, calculator buttons, or remote control panels.

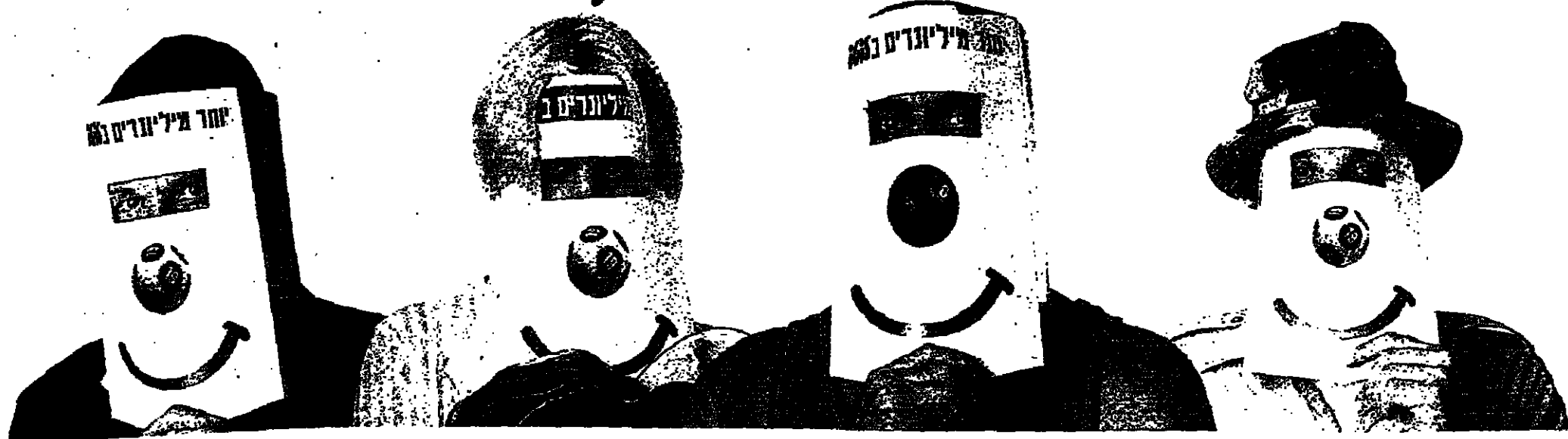
These often are elongated, with rows of tiny shafts inside. When gold-plated, these "contacts" are maintenance free. The majority are made of nickel or brass, however, making them prone to oxidation. When this happens, either the instrument doesn't work, or it gives erratic aural or visual reception.

Before purchase, read labels carefully, because some brands corrode plastics. Since many such contacts are in or around plastics, buy the gentler kind.

Application: unplug the equipment or switch off battery-operated instruments (though the spray does not conduct electricity). Spray (with nozzle attachment) both sides of contact (socket and plug). Gameboy instrument and cassette, etc.). Wait three or four minutes. Then insert and extract a few times.

If you have a question or can suggest simple solutions to annoying problems, write to: Fix It Yourself, POB 81, 91000 Jerusalem.

LOTTO - Laugh All the Way to the Bank!



From January 1994 to August 1, 1995, Lotto made 73 new millionaires, and did they laugh - all the way to the bank. For percentage of the profits it pays out as prizes, Lotto has no rivals among Israel's games of chance. If you want to turn your smile into a great big laugh, play Lotto, and you'll laugh - all the way to the bank!



BUSINESS & FINANCE

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1995

Panel okays kibbutz debt arrangement

THE Knesset Finance Committee approved yesterday an accord to rid the country's kibbutzim of nearly NIS 6 billion in debt.

Under the accord, the government and commercial banks will write off NIS 3.8b. in debt. The government will account for 35 percent of the debt and the banks for 65%.

The 76 kibbutzim involved in the arrangement will in turn have to sell land valued at NIS 8b. to pay back the remaining NIS 2b. owed.

In addition, the healthier kib-

GALIT LIPKIS BECK and agencies

butzim will have to contribute NIS 300m. towards the arrangement.

A committee made up of government, banking, and kibbutz representatives hammered out the accord earlier this year, but required the finance committee's approval before being implemented.

In recent years the heavy debt burden has threatened some kibbutzim with insolvency.

There have been recent calls to investigate the debt amid claims by some kibbutz movements that banks charged the kibbutzim millions of dollars in illegal fees.

Following the announcement, the United Kibbutz Movement called on the Finance Ministry and banks to proceed with the debt arrangement immediately.

Movement representatives said the arrangement marks the start of a new era for the kibbutzim.

C&W won't delay Bezeq sale - Shohat

Post Business Staff

"THE Ministerial Committee on Privatization decided to try to reach an agreement with Cable & Wireless on Bezeq's privatization, since C&W owns 10.02 percent of its shares," Finance Minister Avraham Shohat told the Knesset Finance Committee yesterday.

"If the government reaches an understanding with C&W, that's great. If not, since the government owns most of the shares in Bezeq, it has the power to act."

Shohat said a timetable for discussions with C&W must be estab-

lished, as there is no reason to continue conducting slow negotiations that are not going anywhere.

He noted the government will continue with the international Bezeq share issue and will issue an international phone service tender.

Tami Ben-David, head of the Government Companies Authority, told the committee that last December, C&W chairman Lord Young had written the prime minister asking that the impending Bezeq share issue be delayed and that a strategic partner be sought first.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

American Publishing buys Arkansas paper: Thomson Newspapers and American Publishing announced yesterday they have reached an agreement in principle that allows American Publishing to purchase *The Northwest Arkansas Times*. The newspaper had been sold to Nat. L.C. in February, and is being bought by American Publishing following a court-ordered rescission of the prior sale.

"*The Northwest Arkansas Times* is a fine quality paper with strong ties to the community," American Publishing president and CEO Larry Perrotto said.

American Publishing, a subsidiary of the Canadian-based newspaper company Hollinger, is the second largest newspaper publishing group in the U.S. Its publications include the *Chicago Sun-Times* and *The Jerusalem Post*. **Post Business Staff**

Packard Bell and EIM personal computers will be sold, starting this week, with hardware and software allowing for immediate connection to TV-Tel service. The Israel Information Superhighway Company, the local provider to TV-Tel, signed a deal with Super-Shivuk, which markets Packard Bell and EIM computers. TV-Tel is a joint project run with Bezeq that supplies a variety of information and services. **Judy Siegel**

Lannair, part of the RAD-Binet group, announced yesterday it has raised \$2m. - \$1m. from *Ampal* of the *Poskim* group and \$500,000 each from *Clal* and *Mofet* venture capital funds. Initial Lannair investors included Lannair, Star venture capital, and RAD Computer Communications. **Rachel Neiman**

Electra has won a NIS 50m. contract to provide the new Tel Aviv Intercontinental Hotel with complete electromechanical systems, including air conditioning, electric wiring, and infrastructure. Once finished, the 600-room hotel will house the Middle East's largest convention hall following an investment of \$80m.-\$100m. **Rachel Neiman**

Motorola Israel has installed its first civilian GPS (Global Positioning System) for Rabin Tours. Installation in the 50-vehicle fleet, which mainly serves tourists, cost NIS 525,000. "The system allows us to be aware of our drivers' needs at any moment [and] complete control of our fleet," said general manager Israel Rubin. **Rachel Neiman**

Rejwan to take over Good Morning Jerusalem: The Good Morning Jerusalem service, which allows tourists to rent rooms in private homes, is to be taken over by Rejwan Tours. The tender was issued by the Jerusalem Development Authority, which together with the Tourism Ministry founded the service. **Haim Shapiro**

Local advertising agency Fogel Levin has signed a cooperative agreement with the world renowned advertising agency Ogilvy and Mather. **Rachel Neiman**

Carmel Bank announced it is offering 13.75% annual interest on deposits of NIS 25,000 to NIS 500,000 in order to increase the public's shekel deposits. The rate will be offered for six months. On four-month deposits, the bank is offering a rate of 13.25%, while on three-month loans the rate is 13%. **Galit Lipkis Beck**

Gov't raises \$500m. in US-backed bond issue

THE government raised \$500 million yesterday in a US-backed bond issue.

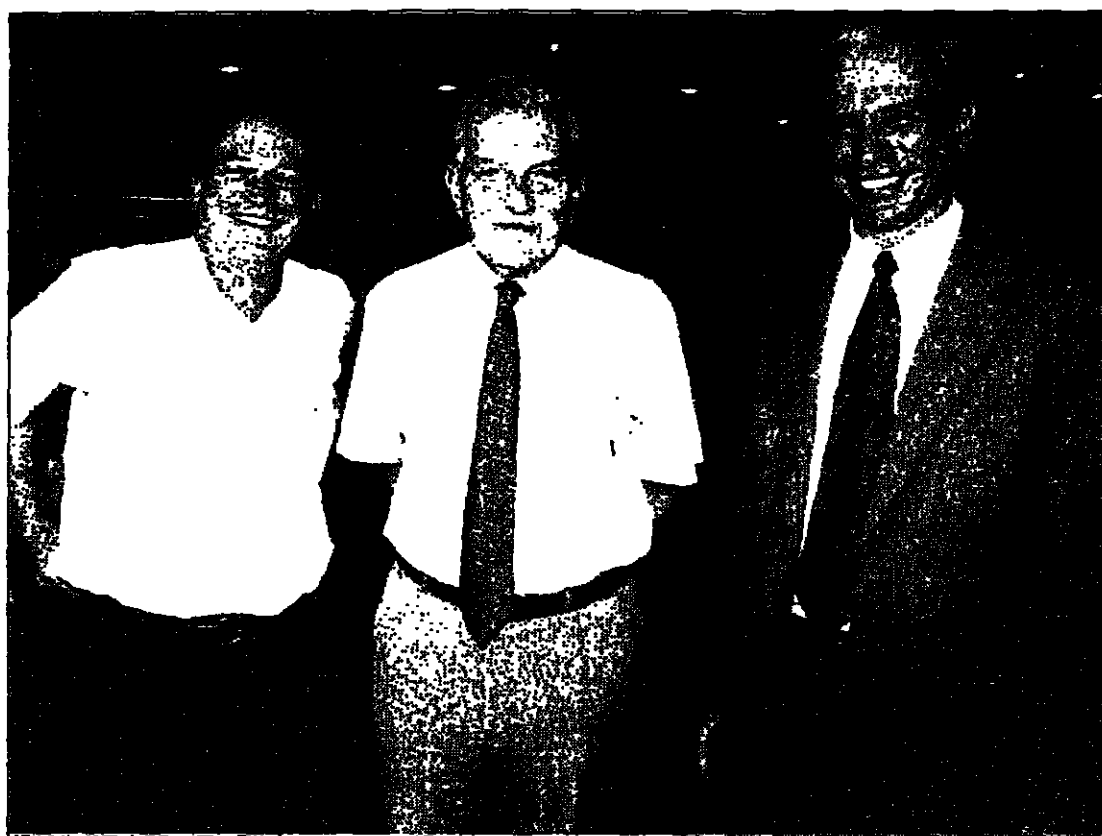
Salomon Brothers was chosen as underwriter for the offering after winning an open tender, based on the offering's overall cost, over six other investment banks.

Meanwhile, Bank Leumi announced it has won a government tender to organize a syndicate to raise between \$100m. and \$150m.

This is the second time this year that Leumi has been chosen by the government to raise capital.

Bank Leumi UK will organize the syndicate with the lead arrangers, Chemical Bank and Barclays. Co-arrangers include the Swiss bank MBS, German-owned Dresdner Bank Luxembourg, and Japan's Fuji Bank - the first Japanese bank to participate in financing a government loan.

Galit Lipkis Beck



President Ezer Weizman (center) is flanked by RAD-Binet general manager Zohar Zissafel (left) and president Yehuda Zissafel (right) on a visit to the group's plants yesterday in Tel Aviv. During the tour, RAD announced that China is now RAD Computer Communication's (RADCom) second largest market following the US. Annual sales to China for RADCom, the group's flagship company, are expected to reach \$7 million this year. **(Michael Freidlin)**

Notice of a special offer to buy units of

LAHAK Mutual Funds

American-Israel Bank Ltd. Mutual Funds Management

From September 17, 1995 to October 31, 1995, units are being offered of the LAHAK-ANKOR Fund at a unit price with a supplemental rate of 0.25% on all amounts. Units may be ordered at any branch of the American Israel Bank Ltd. or through members of the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange.

This notice is not a proposal to buy these units. Fund Manager: Lahak - American-Israel Bank Ltd. Mutual Funds Management. Trustee: Israel Discount Bank Trust Co. Ltd.

LAHAK MUTUAL FUNDS MANAGEMENT OF AMERICAN ISRAEL LTD.

MINISTRY OF FINANCE Accountant General

Bids are invited for the supply of goods and services required by government agencies located throughout Israel:

Tender No. 12/95: Special quality printers.

Last date for submitting bids:

Wednesday, October 25, 1995, at 12 noon.

Bid forms are available from

the Tenders and Buying Department,

The Accountant General's Office,

Room 714 or 715, Ministry of Finance Building,

1 Rehov Kaplan, Jerusalem.

Additional details may be obtained from

02-317428, 02-317418.

No undertaking is given to accept the lowest or any bid.

Israel Broadcasting Authority

Tender no. 15/95

Israel Broadcasting Authority hereby invites bids for the supply and installation of a main matrix, including training, in the main control room of the television studios, Romema, Jerusalem.

The tender documents may be purchased at the finance and economics division of IBA, Clal Building, Jaffa Street 97, Jerusalem (Room No. 31), between the hours of 08:30 - 14:00, for the sum of 1000.00 NIS, that will not be refunded.

A tour at the television studios will be held on 28/9/95 at 12:00 as specified in the tender documents.

The tender documents may be inspected before the purchase thereof at the offices of IBA at the above mentioned times.

As a precondition for participation in the tender, the bidder must attach to his bid:

A. A certificate from an assessment officer or accountant that the bidder keeps proper account books and is permitted to deal with public bodies.

B. A valid authorized dealer's certificate for purposes of value-added tax.

C. If the bidder is a company or partnership, he must attach to his bid a photocopy of the certificate of registration from the registrar of companies/partnerships, as well as confirmation by a lawyer/accountant as to those who are authorized to sign on behalf of the company/partnership.

D. An unconditional bank guarantee linked to the consumer price index in the amount of 1,500 NIS to assure fulfillment of the bid for a period of 90 days from the last day for submission of bids.

If a bidder whose bid is accepted withdraws therefrom, his guarantee will be forfeited.

The last day for submission of bids is 12/10/95 at 12:00 noon.

Any envelope not in the tenders box by that time will not be taken into account even if it was dispatched before the expiration of the above date and time by mail or in any other manner.

The bid with all its accompanying documents will be placed in the tenders box at the above address in a sealed envelope marked "Tender No. 15/95".

The agreement with the winner of the tender will be signed for one year with an option of renewal.

IBA does not undertake to accept the lowest bid or any bid whatsoever. IBA reserves the right to divide the order among several bidders.

Egg producers threaten to stop selling eggs

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

EGG producers will stop selling eggs Monday in reaction to the government's refusal to increase the price they receive per egg, the Poultry Growers Association announced yesterday.

Association representatives claimed egg production has become unprofitable. Since August 1994, producers have been receiving about 64 percent of the cost of producing eggs.

The Agriculture Center has set the price of an egg at 30 agorot.

The group said the price of raw materials needed to produce eggs has increased more than 20%

over the last six months, but market prices have remained virtually unchanged.

The producers are demanding the government reduce its involvement in the market to enable market forces to determine egg prices.

They said egg prices are low despite the rise in demand which has come after many years of excess supply.

The drop in supply is due to the producers' implementation of reforms, under which the quantity of eggs produced has been restricted, they added.

Investor files NIS 230m. class action suit against La Nationale

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

A LA Nationale Insurance investor filed a NIS 230 million class action suit against the company's management in Tel Aviv District Court yesterday.

Attorney Eli Shalav filed the lawsuit on behalf of Eli Levi, who purchased 400 of La Nationale's preferred stock for more than NIS 5,000. The lawsuit was filed against the firm, 20 of its directors, and parent companies Hadar and Phoenix.

The petitioner claims he bought the shares after La Nationale published attractive prospectuses and financial statements that helped it raise NIS 150m. in a public offering.

According to Levi, the firm presented itself as a thriving, profitable insurance company. Between 1990 and the fourth quarter of 1994, La Nationale's financial statements showed continuous growth in profits and activity.

In the petition, Levi accuses the firm of publishing financial statements that included misleading and incomplete information intended to encourage investors to purchase shares.

One month after the publication of its last prospectus in August 1994, the petition claims, the company decided to write off

profits of NIS 83.6m. from life insurance profits previously included in 1990-1993 financial statements. The write-off led to a halving of the firm's profits, according to the petition.

The petition also accuses La Nationale of not warning investors of plans to set aside NIS 54m. in provisions for the possible cancellation of kibbutz policies. In addition, the petition says La Nationale's managers denied unfavorable rumors concerning the company's activities in an attempt to mislead the public.

La Nationale has yet to file its defense.

Mutual funds put their money in Gav Yam, Electra, Dankner

GAV Yam, Electra, and Dankner have the highest investment of mutual funds among shares traded on the TASE's Karam Index, according to a survey conducted by Meitav.

Mutual fund holdings in Gav Yam, based on the market value of transactions at the end of June, reached NIS 43m., followed by

Electra at NIS 43m., and Dankner at NIS 40m.

The most popular shares on the Two-Sided Index among mutual funds are Africa Israel and three venture capital funds - Tezuza, Mofet, and Marathon.

At the end of June, Africa Israel had mutual funds investments of NIS 28m. **Galit Lipkis Beck**

Fertilizers employees demonstrate in Kiryat Ata

RACHEL NEIMAN

SEVERAL hundred Fertilizers and Chemicals workers demonstrated in Kiryat Ata yesterday to protest the municipality's demand to pay outstanding municipal taxes (*armona*).

Another 150 employees met in front of the headquarters of the firm's parent company, Israel Chemicals (ICL), in Ramat Gan, where they met the concern's chairman of the board, Haim Erez, who praised them for protesting in a responsible fashion and urged them to continue.

The 10-year-long dispute is over municipality claims that Fertilizers owes \$22.764 million in municipal taxes. The firm has already paid \$13.79m. of the sum and is to pay an additional NIS 12m. this year.

A settlement with Kiryat Ata is integral to the company's rehabilitation - Fertilizers had second-quarter net losses of NIS 189.7.

In a letter sent to Industry and Trade Minister Micha Harish yesterday, Erez said the sum

owed represented 4% of the firm's annual sales turnover - "one of the primary causes for losses which have brought the factory to a state where its future is doubtful."

Erez said Kiryat Ata's proposed NIS 10m., or 40%, tax reduction is a smokescreen.

Last week the Tel Aviv District Court granted Kiryat Ata a provisional injunction against Fertilizers and ICL, which has essentially closed down all funding channels. The injunction forbids the transfer of any funds in transactions connected to rights granted by Fertilizers to ICL. Also, Fertilizers cannot execute any action on behalf of ICL that might grant or transfer any of Fertilizers' properties to ICL. In addition, the injunction forbids ICL to transfer funds or properties to Fertilizers.

Kiryat Ata says it has two repossession orders - one filed in 1988 and one in 1992 - that grant it all rights to Fertilizers' property.

A court date is set for October 1.

ECI wins \$40m. Filipino contract

ECI Telecom has been awarded a \$40 million contract by the Philippines Long Distance Telephone Company (PLDT) for access multiplexers. PLDT will also buy \$8m. worth of auxiliary equipment.

A limited amount of equipment will be delivered this year, with the rest to be completed in 1996.

PLDT is the country's leading provider of telecommunications services.

Last month, ECI and domestic telecommunications carrier Philippines Telegraph and Telephone Corporation announced a \$30m. pact which is not connected with yesterday's deal. **Rachel Neiman**

ISRAELI MONEY MARKETS

Patah (foreign currency deposit rates) (13.9.95)				
Currency (deposit term)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS	
U.S. dollar (\$250,000)	5.000	4.750	4.875	
Pound sterling (£100,000)	4.750	4.625	4.875	
German mark (DM 200,000)	2.625	2.625	3.000	
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	1.750	1.750	2.000	
Yen (10 million yen)				
(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)				
Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (13.9.95)				
CHECKS AND TRANSFERS	Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell
Currency basket	3.4741	3.4892		
U.S. dollar	3.0734	3.0734	3.12	3.12
German mark	2.0358	2.0357	2.10	2.10
Pound sterling	4.2898	4.2898	4.30	4.30
French franc	0.5882	0.5882	0.59	0.59
Japanese yen (100)	2.9478	2.9555	0.57	0.57
Dutch guilder	1.8187	1.8481	1.78	1.85
Swiss franc	2.4804	2.5329	2.44	2.57
Swedish krona	0.4228	0.4227	0.44	0.44
Norwegian krone	0.4657	0.4743	0.46	0.49
Denmark krone	0.5280	0.5345	0.51	0.52
Finnish mark	0.6576	0.6687	0.67	0.68
Canadian dollar	2.2445	2.2808	2.20	2.22
Australian dollar	2.5107	2.5490	2.27	2.29
S. African rand	0.8253	0.8337	0.87	0.88
Belgian franc (10)	0.9904	1.0054	0.97	0.94
Austrian schilling (10)	2.9653	2.9426	2.84	2.89
Italian lira (1000)	1.8559	1.8501	1.82	1.83
Jordanian dinar			4.12	4.12
Egyptian pound			0.26	0.26
ECU	3.6135	3.6751		
Irish punt	4.7723	4.8320	4.89	4.93
Spanish peseta (100)	2.3535	2.4220	2.34	2.46

* These rates vary according to bank. ** Bank of Israel.

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

הכנסת הארבע

FELICE MARANZ



Investors are looking toward tomorrow's publication of August's Consumer Price Index for hints that the central bank may be deterred from raising rates, said Azoulay. Forecasts are calling for

After trading in Tel Aviv closed, the Amex/Oscar Gruss Israel Index fell 0.17 to 159.92. The index, which measures 11 Israeli companies traded in the US, closed at an annual high of 160.09 Tuesday.

WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP

Another record high

WALL STREET REPORT

Based on early and unofficial million shares on the New York Stock Exchange

	MARK	STERLING	YEN	SFr	FFr
MARK	—	0.4320/25	68.75/78	0.8163/88	3.4380/98
STERLING	2.3120/30	—	158.01/13	1.8875/99	7.9531/12
YEN	1.4505/52	0.8263/69	—	1.1866/61	4.8095/48
SFr	122.40/58	0.5291/86	94.20/24	—	4.2100/59
FFr	0.2808/09	0.1256/67	19.97/04	0.2372/75	—

Two-sided trading

[illegible]

SOURCE: ISRAEL DISCOUNT BANK

[illegible]

		Change
US dollar	NIS 3.0480	+ 0.16%
Sterling	NIS 4.7237	- 0.03%
Mark	NIS 2.0535	- 0.51%

INT'L STOCK MARKETS

	1984	Change
DJ Industrials	4766.92	+15.51
DJ Transport	1984.82	+25.08
DJ Util	204.38	-0.53
DJ Comp	1611.25	+9.92
NYSE Index	360.95	+1.31
NYSE Transport	287.53	+1.84
NYSE Comp	310.32	-2.54
S&P 100	347.38	+2.79
S&P Spot Index	578.77	+2.26
AMEX Comp	563.14	-0.44

NYSE closes

Share	movements	479	1131	1110
Volume up (in 1000's)				171389
Volume down (in 1000's)				171389

	Last	Change
FTSE 100	3570.8	+34.9
Telco Nikkei average	18614.2	+142.1
Singapore all-share index	2144.8	+0.36
Hong Kong Hang Seng index	9681.38	+148.55
Telcel index	184.68	+0.36

Last		Change
NYSE / AMEX		
Abs in Pop	52.5	+1.5

Carnegie Unit	14	-0.125
Frustrum (Microchem)	4	+0
Electric	2,876	+0
Erg Latent	8,825	-0.125
Erg Latent A	7,575	-0.5
Laser T.	10.5	+0
PEC	28	+0
Tachion	29.25	-0.5
NASDAQ / over-the-counter		

AG Associates	29	-0.025
Aladdin	17	+1
Accura	15.5	+0.5
4TH. Dispersion	8.125	-0.125
BVI	8.375	+0.125
Coverage	23.875	+0.125
Delta (1/2000000)	8.375	-0.125

Edo-Son	1.5	0
Edo-Son	8	+0.0825
Electric Fuel	2,125	-0.125
EPF	81.76	+0.5
Etbit	22	-0.5
Elron	71.375	-0.5
Exhaust Probesec	1	+0.125
M. Systems	4.376	-0.125
Giant	27.876	-0.75

Google	8.878	+0.25
Health Tech	1.75	-0.1875
Idan	0.5825	+0.03125
IS	2.875	+0.0825
Indigo	31.5	+1.25
terrace	0.58125	-0.0825

Lanopix	13.75	+0.125
Maga	18.25	+0
Media-AI	4.125	-0.375
Mercury	1.125	0
Magic	25.5	+0
Opel	7.625	-0.375
Orbitech	21.75	+0.625
Orbitech	13	+0.1675
Orbitech Tech	3.1675	+0.3125

Company	Price	Change
Parke	5	+0.125
Schick	20.375	+0.125
Silicom	2.5	0
TAT Technol	4.025	+0
Taro VR	7.75	+0.125
Tetradigm	9.25	+0.25

TVG 1 0
(All listings are closing quotes)
Comestock Trading Ltd. (Date 23-SEP-88)

INFL MONEY MARKETS

		Last	Change
Point:	spot	1.5493	-0.0075
	Declutture (CME)	1.545	-0.008
D-mark:	spot	1.4938	+0.022
	Declutture (CME)	0.8717	-0.0108
S-franc:	spot	1.2195	-0.0759
	Declutture (CME)	0.8251	-0.0121
Yen:	spot	102.78	+1.88

	Declaire (GME)	0.00889	-0.00178
CanDir:	spot	1.3579	+0.011
	Declaire (GME)	0.7335	-0.0072
AusDir:	spot	0.785	+0.003
	Declaire (GME)	0.7821	+0.0055
Franc:	spot	5.1381	+0.0507

Band:	spot	3.884	-0.0025
ECU:	spot	1.2584	-0.0138
Bonds:	future	113.781	-0.40625
S and P	future	583.5	+2.4

Libor rates

Last

Change

Dollar	3 months	5.8437	0
Dollar	6 months	5.8437	0
Dollar	12 months	5.8437	0
Sterling	3 months	6.6125	0
Sterling	6 months	8.75	0
Sterling	12 months	8.6875	-0.0825

mark	3 months	4.1875	0
mark	6 months	4.1875	0
mark	12 months	4.2187	0
an	3 months	0.5	0
an	6 months	0.5	0
an	12 months	0.6	0

Spot market findings are from approximately 1000 loans. Note: All others are closing quotes.

Foreign financial data courtesy of

TC Futures, Options,
Stocks, Bonds
and Mutual Funds
34 Ben Yehuda St.,
Jerusalem

Tel. 02-244963, 03-5758826

AND METALS

US commodities

	Last	Change
beon (Dec) (DEC)	1280	-14
shen (Dec) (DEC)	127	+0.15
aper no.11 (Dec) (DEC)	10.61	+0.04
hem (Dec) (DEC)	675	-5.25
chuan (Dec) (DEC)	622.5	-4.75

London commodities		Last	Change
iron (Dec) (LCE)		513	+8
steel (Nov) (LCE)		2350	+30
ore trade of (Oct/PE)		1575	-9

Spot market metals (US)		
	Last	Change
Al	284.15	+1
Cu	233.50	-1
Fe	100.00	0
Gold	100.00	0
Lead	100.00	0
Nickel	100.00	0
Palladium	100.00	0
Platinum	100.00	0
Silver	100.00	0
Tin	100.00	0
Zinc	100.00	0

	Last	Change
Gold (Dec)	398.2	-0.9
Silver (Dec)	5.445	-0.11
Platinum (Dec)	440.5	-3.8
Palladium (Dec)	149.4	-0.15
Nickel (Dec)	1.279	-0.0125

	Last	Change
305.4	+2.8	

Spot market ratings are from approximately 10 term time. All others are closing quotes.)
 (Data 13-SEP-95)

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Maccabi Haifa takes on Sporting Lisbon with national pride at stake

ORI LEWIS

MACCABI Haifa will tonight try to redeem the reputation of Israeli soccer when it takes on host Sporting Lisbon, the Portuguese cup holders in the European Cup Winners' Cup, first round, first leg match.

After Hapoel Beersheba's crushing 7-0 defeat at the hands of Barcelona on Tuesday night, Haifa is effectively the last Israeli club with a chance of advancing in the European cup competitions.

Previous exits by Hapoel Tel Aviv and Maccabi Tel Aviv, and with hope of qualification by the national side to England '96 all but gone, Haifa, probably Israel's most talented side, is the only chance for a little piece of glory for local fans.

The task ahead is huge, however. Haifa faces a side which, even though it does not rank among Europe's elite, has far more experience at this level of play. Add to that an expected 40,000 spectators in the 70,000-seater Jose Alvalade stadium, Sporting's home venue, and Haifa certainly has its work cut out.

"I'm hoping for a good result here. We will try to attack and not close up in defense," Haifa manager Giora Spiegel said during training yesterday.

"Sporting is a good club that plays an aggressive, tactical game, but they have some weaknesses at the back and we'll have to try and take advantage of that," he continued.

Spiegel has yet to make up his mind about who will open up front. The main consideration is whether to start with Ofer Shitrit, or with Alon Mizrahi. Defender Moshe Giam, who was sent off in the league match against Hapoel Beersheba, will definitely play.

Sporting's deputy coach Jose Costa has seen Haifa play has already warned his side to be wary of Eyal Berkowitz and Haim Revivo.

Lisbon finally ended a trophy drought with last season's cup success under the respected Carlos Queiroz, but the side had to reorganize last season when it sold off several top players, including Luis Figo, who scored twice for Barcelona on Tuesday.

The Portuguese have a wealth of talented players, however, with no fewer than six foreigners worth some \$13 million. Most noted among them is Nigerian striker Emanuel Emonike.

The match kicks off at 9:30 p.m. and will be shown live on Channel 1, with live commentary also on Radio 2.

Spartak Moscow beats Blackburn

BLACKBURN (AP) — A consistent, well-rounded Spartak Moscow continued Blackburn's European frustration with a 1-0 away win in the first round of the Champions' Cup yesterday.

Sergei Yuran beat an amateur mistake by Blackburn goalkeeper Tim Flowers to lob the ball over him in the 41st minute for the game's only goal.

Strong, bustling defense held Blackburn's creative attack, which had enough chances to win, and a slick midfield took the ball forward as the Russian champion looked impressive.

Blackburn had plenty of opportunities up front, but the defense of Dmitri Khlestov and Yuri Nikiforov forced hurried and mistimed shots.

In the first 25 minutes, crosses and passes fell just wide or too high for Mark Atkins and Mike Newell. Stuart Ripley repeatedly centered the ball from the right wing and David Batty from midfield, but the defense frustrated the Blackburn forwards.

Their best chances came when Newell's 21st-minute volley was pushed away by goalkeeper Stanislav Cherchesov. Newell then chipped to Alan Shearer in space, but his header lacked the power to beat Cherchesov.

Against the run of play, Spartak pounced on a poor Atkins corner and sent the ball forward. Valeri Schmarov lobbed a through ball from halfway and Flowers ran well out of his area to meet Yuran who just beat Graeme Le Saux to the ball and knocked it over the keeper's head into an unattended net.

Seconds before the halftime whistle, Atkins found himself in space, with only Cherchesov to beat, but Nikiforov came from nowhere and dived in to knock the ball away in a typical example of the Russians' dogged defense.

Blackburn applied enormous pressure in the second half, but missed realistic chances from Shearer twice, Atkins twice, Colin Hendry, Lee Makel and Newell.

Yuran also missed four other



TIGHT DEFENSE — Ajax Amsterdam defender Frank de Boer (l) takes the ball away from Real Madrid striker Ivan Zamorano.

chances as both teams kept the game going at a great pace.

Ajax Amsterdam 1
Real Madrid 0

Holders Ajax Amsterdam sent a clear message to all pretenders that it will not easily surrender its crown when it beat six-times winners Real Madrid.

Ajax, whose preparations were overshadowed by a double tragedy at the weekend, controlled the opening game of its title defense, despite conceding much of the possession and territorial advantage to the Spanish champions.

With teenage striker Patrick Kluivert missing out of respect for the family of a man who died in a collision with the player's car last weekend, and skipper Danny Blind and Arnold Scholten suspended, coach Louis van Gaal was forced to bring in more of his youngsters.

But it was international winger Marc Overmars who earned the points, finding space and time in the 14th minute to run at the Madrid defense and beat Buys with a low right-foot shot that squeezed inside the post from 20 meters.

Juventus 3

Borussia Dortmund 1
Juventus served notice it aims to follow AC Milan's example in the European Cup.

Goals from Michele Padovano, Alessandro Del Piero and Antonio Conte, after a first-minute goal for the Germans from former Juventus midfielder Andy Moeller, gave the 1985 European Cup winners a perfect start in Champions' Cup Group C.

CHAMPIONS' CUP

Group A
In Nantes: Nantes (France) 0, Porto (Portugal) 0. Attendance: 25,000.

In Kiev: Dynamo Kiev (Ukraine) 1, Panathinaikos (Greece) 0 (halftime 0-0). Score: Vitaly Kozlovsky (61st). Attendance: 65,000.

Group B
In Warsaw: Legia Warsaw (Poland) 3, Rosenborg (Norway) 1 (0-0). Scores: Leszek Pisz (64th and 73rd), Ryszard Staniek (75th); Rosenborg — John Aker-Johnsen (83rd). Attendance: 10,000.

In Blackburn: Blackburn Rovers (England) 0, Spartak Moscow (Russia) 1 (0-1). Score: Sergei Yuran (41st). Attendance: 20,940.

Group C
In Dortmund: Borussia Dortmund (Germany) 1, Juventus (Italy) 3 (1-2). Scores: Dortmund — Michael (14), Juventus — Padovano (12th), Del Piero (67th), Conte (69th). Attendance: 35,800.

In Bucharest: Steaua Bucharest (Romania) 1, Glasgow Rangers (Scotland) 0 (0-0). Score: Daniel Prodan (84th). Attendance: 26,000.

Group D
In Amsterdam: Ajax Amsterdam (Netherlands) 1, Real Madrid (Spain) 0 (1-0). Score: Marc Overmars (14th). Attendance: 42,000.

In Zurich: Grasshopper (Switzerland) 0, Ferencváros (Hungary) 3 (0-0). Scores: Kristian Liszt (61st), Otto Vincze (81st, 90th). Attendance: 15,000.

Rockies slow Braves' march

DENVER (AP) — Vinny Castilla went 4-for-5 and drove in three runs, and Lance Painter won his first start of the season as Colorado prevented Atlanta from clinching a share of the NL East title with a 12-2 victory Tuesday night.

Castilla, who had his fifth career four-hit game and the fourth this year, also hit his 31st home run. Dymie Bichette added his NL-leading 36th homer and drove in three runs.

Painter (2-0) allowed two solo home runs in five innings. Kevin Ritz pitched four perfect innings for his second save.

The Braves still have a magic number of two to clinch a fourth straight division title.

The game drew 48,013 as the Rockies became the first team in the majors to break the 3 million attendance mark at 3,005,842.

Steve Avery (6-13) has lost his last four starts.

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Orioles 6, Red Sox 5

Host Baltimore overcame two homers by Mo Vaughn and another by Mike Greenwell to extend Boston's losing streak to a season-high five games.

Yankees 9, Indians 2

Ruben Sierra hit a tie-breaking sacrifice fly in the top of the seventh and New York led 3-2 entering the sixth.

New York led 3-2 entering the sixth and put it away with six runs off Julian Tavarez, aided by two errors. O'Neill started it with a two-run homer, his 20th, and two more scored on an error by right fielder Manny Ramirez and a run-scoring forecheck by Jim Leyritz. Wade Boggs finished it with a two-run single.

Scott Kieckhefer (5-5) allowed two runs and five hits in 6 1/3 innings.

Ken Hill (2-1) took his first AL loss, allowing three runs and eight hits in 6-plus innings.

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Boston	76	50	.603	—
New York	66	61	.520	10.5
Baltimore	58	68	.462	17.5
Detroit	54	72	.429	22
Toronto	52	74	.409	24.5

Central Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Cleveland	68	58	.540	—
Kansas City	62	64	.492	6
Chicago	58	68	.460	10
Minnesota	49	77	.389	21

West Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Colorado	68	58	.540	—
Los Angeles	65	61	.516	3
San Diego	61	65	.484	7
San Francisco	61	65	.484	7.5

Wild Card Glance

	W	L	Pct.	GB
New York	66	61	.520	—
Seattle	66	62	.516	.5
Kansas City	63	62	.504	2
Texas	64	63	.504	2
Minnesota	60	68	.475	6.5
Oakland	60	67	.472	6
Baltimore	59	68	.465	7
Chicago	58	68	.460	7.5

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Atlanta	80	48	.625	—
Philadelphia	64	64	.500	15.5
Montreal	60	67	.472	19.5
Florida	58	68	.460	21
New York	56	70	.444	23

Central Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Cincinnati	76	50	.603	—
Houston	65	61	.516	11
Chicago	62	64	.492	14
St. Louis	55	72	.433	21.5
Pittsburgh	52	74	.413	24

West Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Colorado	68	58	.540	—
Los Angeles	65	61	.516	3
San Diego	61	65	.484	7
San Francisco	61	65	.484	7.5

TUESDAY'S NL RESULTS:

Philadelphia 8, Montreal 2
Florida 5, Cincinnati 4
San Diego 5, Pittsburgh 1
Houston 6, New York 6
Chicago 7, Chicago 1
St. Louis 10, San Francisco 4
Colorado 12, Atlanta 2

TUESDAY'S AL RESULTS:

New York 9, Cleveland 2
Detroit 5, Milwaukee 1
Texas 6, Toronto 5
Baltimore 6, Boston 5
Seattle 14, Minnesota 3
California 3, Chicago 1
Kansas City 3, Oakland 1

NBA reps approve 6-year deal

CHICAGO (AP) — NBA player representatives yesterday approved a deal that ensures labor peace for six years, needing only the expected final approval from team owners.

The vote was 25-2 in favor of the deal, with a three-quarters vote needed for approval.

"It looks like we're going to play ball this season," Shawn Bradley of the Philadelphia 76ers said. "The vote went well."

"We're happy we can go forward," Bulls player rep Steve Kerr said.

Boston and Sacramento cast the no votes.

Lord's slated to undergo renovations

LONDON (AP) — Even Father Time must bow to progress.

The old weather vane which has looked over Lord's for 70 years is to be moved to make way for a £13-million new grandstand at the home of cricket in stately St. John's Wood.

The current grandstand and scoreboard square of the wicket are to be demolished to make way for the new stand, which will increase the ground's capacity from 28,500 to 32,500.

The bent-over Father Time taking a bail off the stumps with a sickle over his shoulder has stood atop the scoreboard since it was built in 1926 and has become the image of Lord's. But he will still have a view of the pitch when he moves to his new position above the new stand.

A new scoreboard, probably electronic, will replace the current one.

Demolition of the present scoreboard and grandstand, in which 43 percent of seats have an impaired or obstructed view, is planned to start at the end of 1996.

The lower level of seats will be in place for the Australian tour in 1997, and the stand will be completed by the beginning of the 1998 season.

Joseph Hoffman, Sports Editor

Mac TA wins opener, but is in need of foreign aid

ARYEH DEAN COHEN

MACCABI Tel Aviv rounded out the first week of play in the National Basketball League with a 90-87 win over host Maccabi Ramat Gan last night.

While its victory puts it on the right foot for a repeat of last season's crown, troubles with foreign players have mounted alarmingly. The club is awaiting word on the fate of Ron Anderson, who injured his knee in the preseason, and on center Radisav Curcic, who was placed on probation for punching out a Ha'aretz journalist at a team practice.

According to press reports, Maccabi is awaiting final word from physicians on Anderson's condition before deciding whether to replace him. But with a long season of European and league play ahead, Maccabi is unlikely to wait for Anderson to heal before making a move.

It remains unclear who Maccabi could sign at this juncture, since most NBA camps have not yet opened, and final cuts won't be made until late October at the earliest.

Curcic hit Ha'aretz reporter Eli Sarusi Monday, reportedly because he was angry with the journalist's suggestion that he might not have been the best choice as one of Maccabi's foreigners this year. Maccabi fined Curcic and put him on probation, warning

him he would be sent home if any such incident happened again.

Elsewhere around the league, Maccabi Jerusalem coach Yoram Harush resigned this week, citing personal reasons. Harush's brother died recently, and the coach stepped down from his duties with the national youth squad soon afterwards. At the time, he had also sought to be relieved of his duties with Maccabi Jerusalem, but was convinced to continue.

Harush's decision may also be related to his team's dismal showing this week in opening-game action against Hapoel Galil Elyon.

Maccabi Jerusalem's management had not yet accepted Harush's resignation yesterday, but former Maccabi coach Gadi Kedar — who resigned earlier this summer as coach of Hapoel Gvat — was rumored to be a leading candidate to replace Harush.

National Basketball League First Round

	W	L	Pts.
1. Maccabi Tel Aviv	1	0	2
Hapoel Jerusalem	1	0	2
Hapoel Galil Elyon	1	0	2
Maccabi Ramat Gan	1	0	2
2. Hapoel Haifa	1	0	2
3. Hapoel Ashdod	1	0	2
4. Hapoel Eilat	1	0	2
5. Hapoel Be'er Sheva	1	0	2
6. Maccabi Jerusalem	0	1	1
Hapoel Gvat	0	1	1
Hapoel Tel Aviv	0	1	1
Maccabi Ramat Gan	0	1	1

Bannister suggests key to black athletic success

NEWCASTLE (AP) — Sir Roger Bannister, the first man to break four minutes for the mile, said yesterday that black athletes have fundamental physiological advantages over their white rivals.

Speaking at a science conference, Bannister said the vast number of all-black sprint finals and a high proportion of black athletes in other events at the recent World Championships led to interesting speculations.

"As a scientist rather than a sociologist, I am prepared to risk political incorrectness by drawing attention to the seemingly obvious but under-stressed fact that black sprinters

and black athletes in general all seem to have certain natural anatomical advantages," Sir Roger, a physician, said.

"Perhaps there are anatomical advantages in the length of the Achilles tendon, the longest tendon in the body. I do not know the true reasons."

He said it was possible that black athletes' muscles were better adapted to hot climates and therefore better at providing energy quickly.

He also suggested they could have better power to weight ratio because they have less fatty tissue.

Bannister also warned current athletes of overtraining. He said too much training could impair athletes' immune systems and lead to infection.

He used to train for no more than 30 minutes per day compared to today's athletes who routinely train two hours a day, often twice a day.

Bannister, who broke the four-minute barrier for the mile with a paced run of 3:59.4 in 1954, said eventually the 3:30 barrier would be smashed.

Algerian Nonreddine Morceli currently holds the record of 3:44.39.

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WHERE TO STAY

Rabin, Ukrainian PM agree on increased trade

News agencies

KIEV (AP) — Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin turned from politics to trade on the second day of an official visit to Ukraine, urging the two countries to expand ties.

"It is very important for Ukraine to reorganize its trade with the entire world," Rabin told representatives of Ukraine's business community during the opening of an Israeli Chamber of Commerce at the Israeli Embassy here.

"For dozens of years an Iron Curtain separated the people of Ukraine and Israel. I view the opening of the Chamber of Commerce as a great step."

Israeli officials said trade between Ukraine and Israel totaled \$50 million annually and said increasing that figure is a main purpose of Rabin's visit.

Ukrainian Minister of Foreign Economic Affairs Serhei Oshka said there are no logical reasons why trade shouldn't increase quickly.

"In good conditions, we will have enough common sense, wisdom, and luck to develop trade," he said.

At a press conference Tuesday, Ukrainian Prime Minister Yevhen Marchuk said an agreement on liberalizing trade signed by the two countries two months ago should be ratified by the Ukrainian parliament soon and open the way to better economic ties.

Ukraine, he said, is particularly interested in the fields of pharmacology and agriculture.

Rabin also met with Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma and Parliamentary Speaker Oleksandr Moroz, and opened an Israeli Cultural Center.

Later, he visited the main Kiev synagogue, took a short boat cruise, and then attended a special concert given in his honor by Kiev's Jewish community.

"I leave Ukraine with the impression that we have taken a good step ahead enabling our relations to develop in the best direction," he said at the concert.

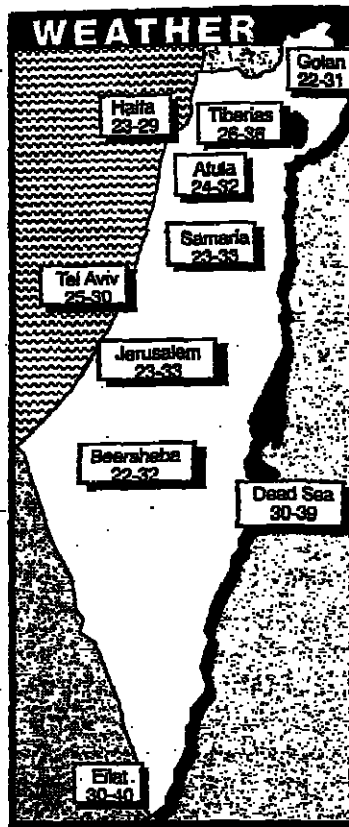
There are 500,000 Jews registered as residents of Ukraine, although unofficial estimates range as high as 1 million. Approximately 300,000 Ukrainian Jews already have emigrated to Israel.

The previous day, he expressed his concern over the export of Russian nuclear technology to Iran, but stopped short of criticizing Ukraine for reported arms sales to the Middle East. Rabin flew to Moscow last night for meetings with top officials today.

Yesterday, an editorial in the English language *Teheran Times* warned Rabin to not put pressure on Russia to its nuclear technology deal with Iran. The paper blamed Israel for interfering in Iran's internal affairs.



Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin yesterday cuts the ribbon and formally opens the Chamber of Commerce in the Israeli Embassy in Kiev. (Zvika Yisraeli/GPO)



Forecast: Partly cloudy to clear. Warm and dry in the hills. Sultry along the coast.

AROUND THE WORLD

	LOW	HIGH	WIND	MOON
Alexandria	15	25	10	10
Buenos Aires	10	20	10	10
Calcutta	25	35	10	10
Cairo	15	25	10	10
Copenhagen	10	20	10	10
Hong Kong	25	35	10	10
London	10	20	10	10
Manila	25	35	10	10
Moscow	10	20	10	10
New York	10	20	10	10
Paris	10	20	10	10
Rangoon	25	35	10	10
Shanghai	25	35	10	10
Singapore	25	35	10	10
Tokyo	25	35	10	10
Yokohama	25	35	10	10

Winning cards

In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the king of spades, ace of hearts, jack of diamonds, and seven of clubs.

Court orders gov't to justify GSS shaking of prisoners

State attorney says method needed to prevent terrorism

THE High Court of Justice yesterday gave the Ministerial Committee on the General Security Service 60 days to explain why GSS interrogators should not stop violently shaking prisoners during questioning.

The order was issued at the request of the Association for Civil Rights in Israel, but the court turned down ACRI's request to issue a temporary restraining order preventing the GSS interrogators from practicing this form of interrogation until a further discussion of the issue.

ACRI lawyer Dan Yakir argued that without clear criteria regarding the GSS interrogators' authority, the regulation allowing violent shaking of prisoners had taken precedence, and its legitimacy should be looked into. He argued that the general authority granted by law to the government to act in cases outside its field of authority does not include the authority to violate an individual's rights.

One of the claims justifying such action by GSS interrogators is the so-called "necessity defense," that is the need to prevent hostile acts allows GSS agents to violate the law barring such behavior.

However, Yakir said that "it would be dangerous to determine that the state's necessity defense allows it to violate all an individual's rights."

He said the "necessity defense" only exists in unforeseen situations, and cannot be used in cases where such action is prepared in advance, as in the guideline permitting GSS agents to violently shake prisoners. He said the granting of permission for using such violence had led to the death of Hamas member Abdel Harizat.

"Does a tragedy have to occur for the GSS interrogators to be authorized to use unusual methods?" Justice Tova Strassberg-Cohen asked Yakir.

Justice Yitzhak Zamir told Yakir that his approach raised an operative difficulty. Even if he canceled the order allowing such methods, he said, a policeman who saves lives by using them would not face criminal charges, and if he did, would be found innocent if he could prove the "necessity defense."

Zamir added that while it would be up to the individual GSS agent to decide whether he would use such measures, his commander could tell him that if he used it to save lives, the attorney-general and the state attorney would not order him prosecuted, but could not guarantee he would not be tried.

"Do you think that even when lives are at stake he'll take the chance? Isn't this a bit two-faced?" asked Zamir.

Yakir said he wasn't interested in abandoning GSS agents to their fate, but that violence should be used sparingly in GSS interrogations.

The state attorney's representative Shai Nitzan asked the court to reject the petition, saying it was too general. He added that the decision regarding the use of violent shaking was in the hands of senior GSS officials, and not all interrogators.

He said GSS interrogators get approval to use the method only in unusual cases of "ticking bombs," and quoted from a ruling by Supreme Court President Aharon Barak stating that the decision to use such force must be made by the government, not by any GSS interrogator.

Nitzan said the frequent use of this method stems from the terrorist groups' actions. "What can we do if a bus blows up every month?" he asked.

He said the GSS had recently prevented 10 attempted car bombings, seven attempts to kidnap soldiers, and several attempted murders. (Iim)

Arab League asks Gaddafi to suspend expulsions

CAIRO — The Arab League asked Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi yesterday to suspend the expulsion of the 30,000 Palestinians resident in Libya.

Arab League Secretary-General Esmat Abdel-Meguid telephoned Gaddafi with the request after talks earlier in the day with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, an Arab League source said.

Gaddafi announced earlier this month that he would deport Palestinians to show there was no place for them despite the Israel-PLO accord.

Dozens of Palestinians have been thrown out in recent days, and many are trapped at the Egyptian-Libyan border with no place to go. Lebanon closed its borders after about 400 entered, and Egypt is restricting entry only to those Palestinians with residence permits for Egypt or the Gaza Strip.

Several hundred Egyptian workers also have been sent home from Libya.

Arafat brought up the subject in talks with Abdel-Meguid yesterday, a day after he met with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

Arafat told reporters he had urged them "to take action and study the expulsion of Palestinians from Libya."

Also yesterday, Palestinians in Lebanon's largest refugee camp went on strike to protest the expulsion from Libya of their compatriots and the Beirut government's decision to ban their entry.

Teen-age boys and older men burned tires at the entrances of the Ein el-Hilweh camp, while shops were closed. (Agencies)

South African chief of staff begins three-day visit

ALON PINKAS

GEN. G.I. Meiring, chief of staff of the South African armed forces, began a three-day visit yesterday, the first official visit of his kind.

Meiring is being hosted by Chief of General Staff Lt-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak.

South African chiefs of staff probably visited in the 1980s and early 1990s according to foreign reports, although officially both countries deny such visits ever took place. Defense relations between Israel and the then outcast South Africa were kept secret, despite numerous foreign reports

over the years contending that the level of military cooperation between the two countries was high and that the two cooperated on nuclear development programs and anti-aircraft missile defenses.

Meiring, whose visit coincides with that of Foreign Minister Alfred Nzo, was hosted yesterday by Defense Ministry Director-General David Ivry, another key figure in the development of defense relations between the two countries.

Meiring will meet with Shahak today, and is scheduled to visit military installations and various defense industries. In the briefings he will receive on Israel's threat perceptions and regional military balance, he will be told that Israel views with great concern recent ties between South Africa and Iran and the prospect of a deal on nuclear facilities.

Last month, Nzo confirmed that South Africa's Department of Energy had concluded a nuclear technology deal with Iran involving "isotopes for peaceful purposes."

US presses eastern Europe to return Jewish property seized in Holocaust

BRUSSELS (AP) — The United States joined international Jewish groups yesterday in urging former Communist nations in central and eastern Europe to return Jewish property seized during Nazi occupation.

US envoy Stuart Eizenstat said it was urgent the restitution should start soon to help the few remaining Holocaust survivors.

"One of the first priorities is to see that income can be given to these survivors so they can live their remaining lives in some degree of grace, without poverty," he told reporters during a meeting organized by the World Jewish Restitution Organization.

Eizenstat, Washington's ambassador to the European Union and special envoy on Jewish restitution issues, said Hungary and Romania had signed agreements that should open the way to a return of Jewish property.

The United States, he said, would continue diplomatic efforts to ensure other nations followed suit.

Since the collapse of the east bloc, Jewish groups have been lobbying to recover private property and communal buildings such as synagogues, schools and hospitals confiscated by the Nazis and their East

European allies and later taken over by Communist regimes.

They also seek the return of millions of dollars placed in Swiss bank accounts by Jews killed in the Nazi genocide and money stolen by the Nazis and placed in secret Swiss accounts.

Edgar Bronfman, president of the World Jewish Congress, was scheduled to fly from Brussels to Switzerland today for talks with government and banking officials.

He said Tuesday's announcement that Swiss Bankers Association will institute new measures to search for missing tens of millions of dollars in its vaults was a "good first step." But he told the Associated Press he was prepared for tough talking with the Swiss to ensure they go still further.

In Zurich, Jewish leaders and supporters will press the Swiss government on Friday to erect a monument to thousands of Jews who were murdered in Nazi camps after being refused refuge in Switzerland.

The demand will come in a petition signed by 5,000 people after being circulated by the Swiss Jewish weekly *Juedische Rundschau*, the newspaper's editor Roger Weill said yesterday.

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